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# Daily Report

# Near East & South Asia

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# Daily Report
## Near East & South Asia

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**NOTICE TO READERS:** An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

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## Arab-Israeli Talks

### Sha'th Reports 'Measure of Progress' in Taba

*JN1802150994 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Arabic 1030 GMT 18 Feb 94*

[Telephone interview with Nabil Sha'th, head of the Palestinian delegation to the Taba talks, in Cairo, Egypt, by Sa'id Mu'addi in the studio, from the "With the Midday Events" program; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Sha'th] I think this week's negotiations, which concluded in Taba yesterday, were positive and made some measure of progress. We would like our talks to lead to implementation on the ground so that ordinary Palestinians may come to feel real change. We have wrapped up discussions on a significant portion of the issues bearing on the transfer of civilian powers to the national Palestinian authority. The water issue remains to be addressed. We have finished with the issues of archaeology, regional planning, and wire and wireless communications. An agreement on relevant papers will be worked out next Monday here in Cairo. We also had exhaustive discussions concerning the release of Palestinian detainees. After the Red Cross team's visit to Taba, we now have all the relevant papers and figures. I believe that next Monday will see us achieve further progress. We also agreed in principle on launching a Palestinian television station and radio station on the medium wave. Regarding the Security Committee, it looked at a draft report on the composition of Palestinian police and security arrangements in the Gaza Strip and the Jericho region. I believe that progress was also made there. However, there are numerous points that need to be cleared by the political leaders. We will wait until next week to see progress made there.

[Mu'addi] Dr. Nabil, have you begun drafting the points on which agreement was reached so that they may be presented to your respective political leaders?

[Sha'th] We are now formulating everything. There is no time left for discussions in a vacuum. All our negotiations address papers, item by item.

[Mu'addi] Do you see the outstanding issues being resolved next week?

[Sha'th] As much as I would like this to happen, it is hard for me to predict that much. As I have said, the Israeli side looks at certain matters as being mere symbols of sovereignty, while, in fact, they are highly significant symbols of national Palestinian identity and the national Palestinian authority. Things like passports, postage stamps, an international telephone code, and other such issues are essential to the Palestinian character and entity, even though these do not, as yet, imply the existence of a Palestinian state, because the Palestinian state has still to come into being.

[Mu'addi] Do you expect an agreement on all issues to be finalized by 'Id al-Fitr [on or about 13 March]?

[Sha'th] That is what I hope will happen. It would then be glad news for our people that will make the 'Id doubly happy.

[Mu'addi] Dr. Nabil Sha'th, the chief Palestinian negotiator in Taba, Thank you so much.

[Sha'th] Thank you.

### Further on Sha'th Comments

*TA1802204694 Jerusalem Israel Television Channel 1 Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 Feb 94*

[Interview with Dr. Nabil Sha'th, head of the Palestinian delegation to the Taba talks, in Cairo, Egypt, by Yusuf Isma'il in the studio, from "The Week in 1 Hour" program—live relay]

[Excerpts] [Isma'il] Dr. Nabil, we are talking to you from "The Week in 1 Hour" program. We understand from the statements made after the last round of talks that ended yesterday in Taba that there is much hope and optimism, that some points have been concluded, and that the resumption of the talks next week in Cairo will almost be a summing up of the talks. What is the picture on the evening of this Friday?

[Sha'th] Undoubtedly, progress has been made. This progress stems from the fact that we have reached the last part of these talks. There was a prior understanding on numerous components of this part. Now we are at the final drafting stage. Therefore, we managed to wrap up an important part relating to the Palestinian police force, security measures, and security liaison. We also wrapped up a significant part of the transfer of civilian powers. We discussed in detail the issue of the general amnesty of prisoners and release of prisoners. We have begun the final drafting of the overall preamble, or the overall agreement. I believe that it was an important and successful week.

[Isma'il] I would like to ask you about two issues. First of all, regarding the Palestinian police force—as far as I remember you demanded 15,000 policemen and Israel gave its consent for 6,000. What are the chances of reaching a settlement on this issue?

[Sha'th] In fact, I do not wish to discuss numbers. I believe that discussing such details will harm the achievement of a final result, which requires both sides to arrive at real figures that will lead to a conclusion. We want to ensure stability for the Palestinian resident. We wish to provide the security that every Palestinian and Israeli resident wants. The attainment of this security requires an efficient and capable police force apart from all economic and political safety measures, participation, and democracy. Therefore, the issue is not only one of figures. It is a comprehensive perception of the issue.

[Isam'il] It seems that you are in agreement with Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres who was interviewed today by Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew. He almost made the same remarks. He said that figures are not important and, ultimately, the issue must be settled. There is hope then.

[Sha'th] I believe that next week we will manage to settle this matter.

[Isma'il] The other issue which I wanted to ask you about is the release of prisoners, which you have been demanding from the outset. The PLO chairman raised this issue once more today in Holland. On the other hand, Israel says that in accordance with the annual custom at the 'Id al-Fitr or at festivals and other occasions, it releases prisoners. Can you tell us anything new about this issue?

[Sha'th] In fact, the Israeli authorities' release on certain occasions—during Ramadan and the 'Id al-Fitr— of detainees whose prison terms have ended or are about to end is different from what we are talking about. We are talking about a comprehensive release as part of this agreement. We are talking about an integral timetble. Therefore, this goes beyond responding only to humanitarian and religious requirements and occasions to ending a situation that existed due to the presence of the occupation and its resistance. Now we are heading toward a new situation. Therefore, all those who were part of the previous situation of occupation and resistance should be released.

[Isma'il] This is your demand, but what is the reality? What are the contacts between you and the Israeli authorities? Can we give the good news to our viewers in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip that you have received promises on the release of prisoners?

[Sha'th] Yes, I believe that as soon as the agreement is signed, a few thousand will be released. However, after this there will be a timetable for a gradual release within framework of the peaceful measures that we are endeavoring to achieve and within context of the arrival of the Palestinian authority and its shouldering of responsibility.

[Isma'il] Dr. Nabil, my understanding then is that during the month of Ramadan an agreement will be signed and practical work will begin.

[Sha'th] I hope so. You know that such issues are not subject to negotiating considerations alone but to numerous political considerations. I believe that we can reach an agreement by the 'Id al-Fitr [on or about 13 March] at the latest so that the feast may have more than one meaning. For several reasons, however, it is difficult for one to make an accurate prediction. If not by this feast, then the agreement will be reached very close to it. I hope, however that we will sign before this feast, God willing. [passage omitted]

[Isma'il] I understand that Cairo is aware of all Israeli-Palestinian contacts and of all the negotiations' secrets. Are the other parties, specially Syria, also aware of what is taking place in the talks?

[Sha'th] Fraternal Syria and all Arab and international parties concerned are briefed about the results of our work. Naturally, however, not as much as the two neighboring and principal Arab parties, namely, Egypt and Jordan. The talks are being conducted in Egypt and we have a special relationship with Jordan. Therefore, the Egyptian and Jordanian Governments are provided with detailed information, but the other governments are provided with less detail and only periodically.

[Isma'il] Have you heard that an Israeli Arab delegation might be visiting Damascus to offer condolences to President al-Asad on Basil's death?

[Sha'th] I believe that the emotions of our sons everywhere regarding the tragedy that struck President Hafiz al-Asad are real and sincere.

[Isma'il] But the significant thing is that the Syrian authorities have given their approval for such a step for the first time. Do you see any political meaning or indication by this?

[Sha'th] There is no doubt that there are numerous meanings and indications in any such act. However, it is also a framework for interaction. Undoubtedly, there are also political considerations in this act.

[Isma'il] Dr. Nabil, we thank you for coming to the studio in Cairo. Every viewer is now probably asking: What will be the outcome? What can you say to the viewers in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip this evening in one minute?

[Sha'th] I say to them that the problem is difficult and that we are embarking on building an entity and a homeland in which there will be freedom, self-confidence, and hopes for the future. I call on them to be patient. I believe that we will be on the threshhold of this new challenge.

[Isma'il] We thank Dr. Nabil Sha'th for this interview, the first one in our program via direct relay from Cairo. Our correspondents have met with you in Tunis and Taba, but it is the first time that we are meeting with Cairo and Dr. Nabil Sha'th via satellite. God willing, we will have other meetings with you.

[Sha'th] Thank you.

### 'Secret' PLO-Israeli Talks Begin in Cairo

*NC2102135294 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1320 GMT 21 Feb 94*

[Text] Cairo, 21 Feb (MENA)—Palestinian and Israeli negotiators started in Cairo today a new round of talks on the final arrangements for temporary Palestinian self-rule in the Gaza Strip and Jericho.

The talks began with a private meeting between Dr. Nabil Sha'th, political adviser to Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat, and General Amnon Shahaq, Israeli deputy chief of staff, to draw up the agenda of the talks.

Afterward, the meeting of the Security Affairs Committee began under Dr. Sha'th and General Shahaq. The Civilian Affairs Committee also met under attorney Jamil al-Tarifi representing the Palestinian side and Gadi Zohar representing the Israeli side.

Ya'qov Neriah, political adviser to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, is participating in the talks for the first time.

Palestinian sources said Y'aqov Neriah's participation in the talks means the Israeli side is serious about reaching an agreement on the points of differences still under discussion. The sources noted the positive atmosphere and the great progress made during the last round of talks in Taba.

Hasan 'Asfur and Y'aqov Neriah told journalists that the talks will be held in secret and that the press will not be allowed to cover them. The Palestinian and Israeli negotiators will hold intensive talks until Wednesday, when Sha'th and Shahaq will announce the results at a news conference.

## Committee Topics Detailed

*TA2102194494 Jerusalem Israel Television Channel 1 Network in Hebrew 1800 GMT 21 Feb 94*

[Excerpt] The PLO is seeking Israeli consent to the entry of its intelligence and police officers into the Gaza Strip and Jericho prior to the Israeli evacuation. Our Arab affairs correspondent Ehud Ya'ari says that in the discussions, which resumed in Cairo today, the Palestinians stressed that such a move is essential to prevent an interim vacuum in the territories.

[Ya'ari] The talks, which were resumed at Cairo's Shepherd Hotel today, are headed by Major General Amnon Shahaq and Dr. Nabil Sha'th. Members of both delegations have said that on 23 February, they may be able to deliver a public statement on the results of this round.

This time the Civilian Affairs Committee will discuss issues such as a fuel excise tax, the manner in which stamps printed by Palestinians will be introduced and used, and the Palestinian city planning powers. The Security Committee will decide on the number of Palestinian police and their equipment. The Palestinians want to set up a UN-supervised police training camp in the Bethlehem area, but Israel refuses to allow any foreign sponsorship. [passage omitted]

## 'Sources' Detail 'Key Hurdles' in PLO Negotiations

*JN2002101694 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 20 Feb 94 p 10*

[Text] Amman—One of the key hurdles in an agreement between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in their autonomy negotiations is an Israeli insistence that no members of groups opposing the autonomy agreement would be released from Israeli jails, informed sources said Saturday [19 February].

The sources could not confirm reports that Muhammad Zahlan, who heads the Palestinian side to the negotiations on prison release, was refusing to return to the talks next week in protest against what he saw as the PLO's gradual move towards accepting the Israeli condition.

Having made progress in reaching agreements on key security issues and a general framework for a Palestinian police force to deploy in the Gaza Strip and Jericho under the Sept. 13 autonomy plan, Israel and the PLO are unable to move forward on the prisoner release issue, the sources said.

"The Israelis are insisting that no known supporter of the hardline groups which oppose the autonomy agreement will be released," said a source familiar with the negotiations held at the Egyptian Red Sea resort of Taba.

"The Palestinians have been resisting this, demanding that a prisoner release come under a general amnesty covering all Palestinian detainees regardless of their affiliation," said the source.

Independent Palestinian analysts said PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat appeared to be betting on a mass release of Palestinians from Israeli prisons to dilute opposition to the autonomy accord.

"'Arafat's comments on Friday have reaffirmed his approach," said one analyst. He was referring to a statement by the PLO chairman during a visit to the Netherlands that he could not "sign a final agreement without having a guarantee for the release of all prisoners."

Red Cross figures indicate that 9,000 Palestinians are held in Israeli jails while PLO officials say the figure is closer to 12,000. Israel puts the number of detainees at 6,000.

Israel has agreed in principle to a prisoner release but ruled out a general amnesty.

According to PLO sources, more than half of the detainees belong to groups such as the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas), Islamic Jihad, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestinian (DFLP) and other factions which have vowed to wreck the autonomy agreement.

But in line with his strategy to create good will among the Palestinians, Mr. 'Arafat has been demanding that Israel make no discrimination among the prisoners.

Sources among the dissident groups also said that despite their fierce opposition to the self-rule accord, Mr. 'Arafat and his aides had been insisting that their members also be released from Israeli detention.

"I do not know whether there was any shift in the PLO stand last week in Taba, but our information is that 'Arafat is refusing to accept anything less than a complete prisoner release," said a prominent figure among the dissidents.

Meanwhile, an independent Palestinian source said Mr. Zahlan, a member of the Palestine National Council from the Gaza Strip, was refusing to return to the negotiations with Israel.

"Mr. Zahlan believes that the PLO is going to accept the Israeli condition against releasing members of groups which do not support the autonomy accord," said the source. "As such, he wants no part of the deal since he would not be able to live with such a compromise."

The other sources said they were not aware of a shift in the PLO stand that would prompt such a response from Mr. Zahlan.

"The PLO negotiators (in Taba) have not accepted any compromise over prisoner release," said the source. "The issue is very much on the table, and it would be dealt with when the talks resume" in Cairo on Monday.

### Israel Rejects Jordan's Request To Discuss Border

*TA2002060594 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0500 GMT 20 Feb 94*

[Text] At the bilateral talks in Washington, Israel has rejected Jordan's request to discuss the border between the two countries. The Israeli delegation was instructed by the government to turn down the request. According to Israel, the matter should only be discussed when the two sides come up with a draft for a peace agreement between Israel and Jordan. Talks on the Israel-Jordan track will resume Tuesday [22 February] and will focus on security arrangements.

## Inter-Arab Affairs

### Arab League Official Notes Clinton Remarks on Libya

*NC2002185294 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1652 GMT 20 Feb 94*

[Text] Cairo, 20 Feb (MENA)—Commenting on U.S. President Bill Clinton's statement that Libya represents a threat to U.S. national security, Ambassador 'Adnan 'Imran, assistant Arab League secretary general, said today it is difficult to believe this. Had this been true, U.S. national security would appear fragile and more like a paper tiger just when various U.S. sources testify to the opposite.

Ambassador 'Imran said what is true is that the continuation of U.S. threats and UN sanctions against Libya represent a threat to stability in the Middle East.

He noted that the Arab League is continuing its efforts to settle the Libyan-Western crisis in a way that would protect Libya's dignity and sovereignty and remove the misunderstanding between it and the countries concerned.

Ambassador 'Imran added that what has been clear since the first UN Security Council resolution was issued against Libya is that the Western countries have exploited the Security Council and the international situation to pass resolutions without fear from any party.

He expressed the view that these resolutions are contrary to the UN Charter, the constitution of the international organization, which confirms the right of every state to exercise sovereignty over its own territory.

He explained that these resolutions set a serious precedent which shakes the confidence of the nations in this organization. For this reason the Arab League has called for a suitable solution to this crisis.

### Arab League Asked To Address Crisis Between Libya, West

*NC2102105194 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1010 GMT 21 Feb 94*

[Text] Cairo, 21 Feb (MENA)—A high-level source in the Arab League said today that the Libyan Jamahiriyah has sent an official memorandum to the secretariat general asking for the inclusion of the Libyan-Western crisis on the agenda of the Arab League Council meeting to be held on 27 March.

The memorandum was sent following recent U.S. statements that Libya represents a threat to American national security.

### Committee on Weapons Free Middle East Meets

*NC2002181794 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1540 GMT 20 Feb 94*

[Text] Cairo, 20 Feb (MENA)—An Arab League committee discussing means of turning the Middle East to an area free from mass destruction weapons began its meetings at the Arab League today.

Dr. Nu'man Jalal, chairman of the committee and Egypt's permanent delegate to the Arab League, said that the committee has prepared a paper that it will present to the next session of the Arab League Council, due to be held on 27 March. The paper contains a plan to coordinate Arab efforts through various international forums with a view to stressing the importance of creating a zone that is free from mass destruction weapons in the Middle East.

Dr. Jalal said that the plan incorporates various elements in the Arab position, foremost of which is the desire to end the arms race in the region and its security and economic repercussions. Resources currently used to stockpile arms should be diverted to boost economic development programs and modernize the region's economies, Dr. Jalal stated.

Dr. Jalal added that the committee stressed the need for all the countries in the region to be treated equally, with no exceptions made for any.

## Islamic Affairs

### ICO Chief, Delegate Discuss Kashmir in Geneva

*BK1802063594 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0100 GMT 18 Feb 94*

[Text] Dr. Hamid al-Ghabid, secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO], has urged the world community to take note of the serious violation of human rights by India in occupied Kashmir. Addressing the Human Rights Commission in Geneva yesterday, he said that the Indian occupation forces are resorting to the most brutal means to crush the legitimate struggle of the Kashmiri people for their right to self-determination. He said that the Indian forces during the last four years have badly trampled the basic rights of the Kashmiri people. Dr. al-Ghabid said that the continuous curfew in occupied Kashmir has crippled the people's life. He said that the ICO at its summit and foreign minister-level conferences has repeatedly appealed to peacefully resolve the Jammu and Kashmir dispute in accordance with the UN resolutions.

The leader of the Pakistani delegation at the Human Rights Commission, which is meeting in Geneva, has said that Pakistan has made persistent efforts to hold purposeful talks with India on the Kashmir issue, but India never responded positively to the Pakistani proposals to resolve the Jammu and Kashmir problem. He said this while addressing the ICO meeting in Geneva yesterday which reviewed the draft resolution on the Jammu and Kashmir issue. The meeting was held after the the ICO secretary general's address to the Human Rights Commission. He said that Pakistan wants a resolution which calls for sending a fact-finding mission to occupied Jammu and Kashmir to assess the grave situation there. The Islamic countries' ambassadors expressed serious concern over the serious violation of human rights in the occupied Kashmir. They noted that although a number of resolutions were adopted at the ICO ministerial and summit meetings, but there was no improvement in the situation. The ambassadors lauded Prime Minister Ms. Benazir Bhutto's address to the Human Rights Commission.

## Palestinian Affairs

### 'Arafat Criticizes Rabin's Deadline Proposal

*JN2002205594 Amman Jordan Television Network in English 2000 GMT 20 Feb 94*

[From the "News At Ten"]

[Text] Palestine President Yasir 'Arafat once again accused Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin of prevaricating on Palestinian autonomy.

Speaking to reporters upon arrival in Amman today, President 'Arafat criticized Rabin for suggesting a delay in the April 13th deadline for Israel's withdrawal from Gaza and Jericho.

He said he was astonished by Rabin's insistence not to implement the PLO-Israeli accord accurately and honestly.

[Begin recording] ['Arafat] I am completely astonished why he is insisting not to follow up and not to implement accurately and honestly what had been agreed upon.

[Unidentified reporter] When do you expect to sign the agreement on the self-rule?

['Arafat] What he is saying is that he is trying to bypass what had been agreed upon.

[Reporter] When do you expect to be back in Jericho?

['Arafat] We have to wait and see. [end recording]

### 'Abbas Comments on Time Factor in Peace Process

*JN2002202894 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1800 GMT 20 Feb 94*

[Text] Brother Mahmud 'Abbas, Abu Mazin, PLO Executive Committee member, has said that the time element favors neither the Palestinians nor the peace process. As time goes by frustration and despondency grow ever deeper, 'Abbas observed.

In remarks published in Manama today, he said the Palestinian-Israeli peace accord must be based on clear guidelines rather than on theory. He blamed the delay in implementing the agreement on all kinds of details raised by Israel. Such tactics, he said, call the final results into question.

He indicated that once agreement is reached on the broad outlines, it will be easy to tackle problems on the ground.

Asked about Israel's position on the Palestinian state, Abu-Mazin said the Palestinian state is a certainty. He called on Israel to honor the 13 April deadline for Israel's pullout from Gaza and Jericho. Unless the deadline is met, the Palestinian-Israeli agreement is likely to come to nothing, he stressed.

### Al-Husayni, Others Reject Israeli Protection Offer

*NC1802122694 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1158 GMT 18 Feb 94*

[Text] Tunis, 18 Feb (MENA)—Citing informed Palestinian sources in Jerusalem, the Tunisian newspaper AL-SABAH reports that Faysal al-Husayni and several other Palestinian leaders inside the occupied territories have rejected an Israeli offer to provide them with police guards. The Israeli authorities warned the Palestinian leaders that they might be attacked by members of fanatical Jewish organizations.

The Palestinians sources said the warning was repeated following the recent progress in the Palestinian-Israeli negotiations and the imminent implementation of the transitional period.

The sources pointed out that Israeli rightist groups and parties are very critical of the statements made by al-Husayni and other figures pertaining to the Palestinian determination to establish a Palestinian state that has its capital in Jerusalem.

### Official: West Bank, Gaza Need '30,000 Policemen'

*PM1802151494 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 18 Feb 94 p 3*

[Text] Tunis—A high-ranking Palestinian source has said that the West Bank and the Gaza Strip need 30,000 policemen to control security and calm the situation after the Israeli withdrawal. The sources said that the cost of this number could reach $560 million, while the Jericho area and the Gaza Strip need 10,000 for the transitional phase, costing $212 million.

The source told AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that Israel, which always uses security concerns as an excuse, is rejecting these figures and believes they are exaggerated, demanding that they be reduced to 5,000 or 6,000 policemen only. The source, who asked to remain anonymous, added that the Israeli proposal has been rejected, and that this rejection has been conveyed to the Palestinian delegation to the Taba committee negotiations aimed at determining the number of the Palestinian police forces and the type of weapons they are going to use. The source pointed out that the Israeli side is also refusing to agree to the Palestinian police forces being armed with heavy, or even medium, weapons.

The source confirmed that numerous states—among them Britain, Sweden, Spain, Greece, the Netherlands, Russia, and the United States—have submitted proposals to train and arm the Palestinian police. But they still remain promises and statements in the air, while the United States has recently trained a special security team for Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat.

The source emphasized that Israel is flooding the occupied territories with light and medium weapons and equipment in preparation for implementing certain schemes designed to sabotage the peace process, foment sedition, and spread panic among Palestinian citizens, and also to show the extent of the Palestinian security forces' competence in controlling the Palestinian scene. The source added that arms have spread rapidly and there are now about 12,000 pieces. He pointed out that Israel has full lists of those who have arms.

### Police Chief Denies Favoritism in Recruiting

*JN2002205994 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1800 GMT 20 Feb 94*

[Text] Colonel Ibrahim Muhanna, commander of the Palestinian police force in the Gaza strip, has denied the affiliations of applicants to the force make a difference in their chances of appointment.

He told the BBC that candidates for appointment to the police force are selected in accordance with Palestinian law and draft regulations. He indicated that out of approximately 11,000 candidates who have applied to join the Palestinian police force, 3,000 have so far passed the medical test. I have no right to ask any applicant about his affiliation, he stressed.

Muhanna indicated that the spread of arms carries grave risks for the Palestinian people. When Palestinian police are deployed in the occupied territories, they will operate under a Palestinian penal code, and law breakers will be prosecuted. Muhanna noted that, in certain respects, that there is cooperation between Palestinian police and Israeli authorities.

### PNC Official Terms Cairo Accord 'New Submission'

*JN2102114194 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 21 Feb 94 p 19*

[Text] Amman—Taysir Qub'ah, deputy speaker of the Palestine National Council, has stated that the Cairo agreement on the security arrangements at the crossing points in Gaza and Jericho is a new indicator of the threats posed by both the Oslo agreement and the policy of selling out our people's national rights.

Qub'ah added that the Cairo agreement clearly proves the quality of the field arrangements and applications of the Oslo agreement. It is also a new submission to the Israeli conditions and the U.S.-Egyptian pressures, and includes serious concessions which undermine our people's national sovereignty over their land, and deals a blow to our people's supreme interests. These interests are linked to our people's right to self-determination and to establishing an independent national state.

Qub'ah pointed out that in return for formal and marginal powers for the Palestinian authority, which will save the leadership's face a little and grant it private personal privileges, there is recognition of Israel's full control of the borders, crossing points, passages, and roads. Under the agreement, the settlements remain and Israel maintains supervision of their security as well as the security of the Israelis in the occupied territories. Also, the Israeli military orders remain valid without even a modest mention that such orders would be circumvented later. Thus, the Israeli military authorities' hegemony over both the external and internal security will be consecrated, Qub'ah added.

## Fatah Wins Seats on Gaza Medical Association

*TA1902054594 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0500 GMT 19 Feb 94*

[Text] In the Gaza elections for the local Medical Association, the nationalist list identified with Yasir 'Arafat's Fatah movement has won a clear victory. A Qol Yisra'el reporter says that with all the votes counted, it has emerged that all the seats on the association's executive have gone to the Fatah.

## Anti-'Arafat Factions Open Meetings in Damascus

*JN2002103494 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 20 Feb 94 p 21*

[Excerpt] The Alliance of Palestinian Forces opened meetings in Damascus yesterday to coordinate common stands to deal with political developments in light of the Cairo agreement struck recently between President 'Arafat and the Israeli foreign minister.

Alliance sources told AL-RA'Y the formation of a "unified national Islamic leadership of the intifadah" will top the agenda of this important session.

The sources also expect raising the question of claiming the same armed fedayeen operations by more than one faction of the alliance to put an end to this phenomenon.

Hamas and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] have both claimed several military operations against Israeli occupation, the latest of which was a military operation against settlers near Hebron on 6 February. This strained relations between Hamas and the DFLP at the time.

Some Palestinian quarters think the alliance factions have so far failed to coordinate their electoral efforts in the occupied territories. This was the reason for Fatah's success in the elections of the doctors' union in Gaza Strip two days ago. All of Fatah's candidates won the 11 seats of the union. [passage omitted]

## Ghawshah Queried on Palestinian Opposition Meeting

*JN2202093894 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 22 Feb 94 pp 30, 26*

[Text] Engineer Ibrahim Ghawshah, official spokesman for the Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, has stated that he has no information about the signing of an agreement between the Fatah hawks and 'Izz-al-Din al-Qassam battalions. He said, however, that this does not rule out the existence of a field agreement against the Zionist occupation.

Replying to a question by AL-DUSTUR, he said: We welcome coordination with the struggling forces that are opposed to capitulatory agreements. We also welcome joint action in major jihad battles against the occupation troops and settlers.

In a statement following his return from Damascus the day before yesterday, Ghawshah added: The central command of the Alliance of Palestinian Forces held two five-hour sessions and discussed the bylaws of the alliance and the organization [tartib] of the effective arenas in the occupied homeland, Syria, Lebanon, and Jordan. He said: A major part of the meetings, held last Saturday and Sunday, was devoted to the political activation of the alliance on the official and popular levels as well as initial discussion of visits to some Arab countries by delegations of the alliance forces to explain their views toward the developments of the Palestine question. He added: We discussed the possibility of forming delegations to hold official meetings without specifying certain capitals or dates.

Asked about the [PLO-Israeli] Cairo agreement, Ghawshah said: We have not discussed this issue seriously, but a joint statement in the name of the alliance will shortly be issued in this regard.

Four Palestinian factions included in the alliance issued a statement a few days ago condemning the Cairo agreement, considering it a step in a series of submissions to the Israeli negotiating terms.

Ghawshah indicated that the alliance's central committee members held a lengthy discussion on coordination and ways to bolster it in the occupied territory elections in the wake of the Gaza Doctors Union elections, in which the alliance was defeated due to lack of coordination.

Answering a question on Yitzhaq Rabin's call on Hamas to engage in dialogue, he said: The occupation forces continue to seek dialogue with Hamas through some of its imprisoned leaders, but our principled political stand rejects dialogue with the occupation forces. The only dialogue lies in escalating the jihad operations and intifadah activities until the liberation of the Palestinian people, even if this takes scores of years.

### Further on Ghawshah Remarks

*JN2202105994 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 22 Feb 94 p 25*

[Text] Amman—QUDS PRESS—The Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, has criticized the current alliance formula among the Palestinian opposition factions.

Ibrahim Ghawshah, the official Hamas spokesman, told QUDS PRESS: We (in the Movement) consider the Palestinian alliance formula as not being sufficiently ambitious to the degree Hamas was seeking. It is rather a reconciliatory formula which does not achieve the desired aspirations, he added.

Ghawshah, who recently participated in the Alliance of Palestinian Forces [APF] meetings held in Damascus on 19 and 20 February, urged upgrading the current alliance formula. He said this is a temporary formula which should be upgraded. He pointed out that the Palestinian factions should work for a formula to establish an elected Palestinian parliament, similar to all democratic states. Such a parliament would truly express the Palestinian people's position on all issues related to their destiny and future, as he put it.

Ghawshah stressed his movement's refusal to consider the popular conferences as a political reference from which a representative council can emanate. He said: This formula partially expresses the people's opinion, but we believe in total expression. This is a point of difference with the democratic (leftist) factions in particular.

The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] had called for holding conferences in the places where the Palestinians are present in order to create a leadership representing the Palestinians.

Regarding the meetings of the APF Central Command recently held in Damascus, Ghawshah said they discussed three issues: first, the internal arrangements (the alliance); second, the regulations pertaining to these arrangements; and third, the activity in the territories and among the Palestinians in Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria.

Ghawshah pointed out that the meetings touched on ways to enhance coordination in the territories in light of the APF's failure in (the elections of) the Doctors Association in Gaza. He stressed that this failure resulted from lack of coordination among the opposition factions.

Ghawshah added that the Damascus meetings worked out preliminary programs to activate the APF on the political and popular levels. The conferees also agreed to organize visits by APF representatives to hold contacts in the world in general and in the Islamic world in particular on the official and popular levels. He pointed out that these visits aim to stress to the world that the Palestinian people adhere to their land, future, and homeland. Ghawshah revealed a draft for internal regulations for the APF. A dialogue will be held in order to endorse these regulations during a meeting of APF officials whose date will be set soon.

## Hamas Movement Rejects Dialogue With Israel

*JN2102180794 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1715 GMT 21 Feb 94*

[Text] Damascus, 21 Feb (SANA)—The Palestinian Hamas Movement has reiterated its rejection of the Gaza-Jericho agreement and all its annexes because they represent dangerous concessions and humiliating submission to the Israeli occupation.

In a statement today, the movement said it rejects any dialogue between Hamas and Israel, saying the only language the Israeli enemy understands will remain the language of force and struggle, not the language of concessions and capitulation.

The statement said that all the Israeli attempts to open dialogue with Hamas members detained in Israeli prisons have failed, and will never be successful.

## PFLP Official Denies Habash, 'Arafat Meeting

*JN2102112194 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 21 Feb 94 p 23*

[Text] Amman, QUDS PRESS—An official of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] has said there are no arrangements to hold a meeting between PFLP Secretary General George Habash and Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat.

In a telephone interview with QUDS PRESS, 'Abd-al-Rahim Malluh, member of the PFLP Political Bureau, denied reports about an upcoming meeting between 'Arafat and Habash. Malluh said these reports are groundless.

Palestinian sources close to Fatah had spoken about a meeting to be held between the two Palestinian leaders who arrived in Amman to attend a Yemeni reconciliation meeting.

Malluh said the PFLP still thinks there is no political common ground to hold such a meeting. He said: Our dispute with Yasir 'Arafat—over the Palestinian-Israeli Declaration of Principles reached in Oslo and the Cairo agreement on implementing the self-rule in Gaza and Jericho—precludes any common ground for a meeting with him, as Malluh put it.

The PFLP is opposed to a self-rule agreement struck between the PLO and Israel and signed in Washington on 13 September. Like other opposition factions, the PFLP refuses to hold any meeting with the PLO leadership before annulling this agreement and subsequent accords.

## PLO's Magazine Views Security Events in Jordan

*NC2102120394 Nicosia FILASTIN AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 13 Feb 94 p 21*

[Article by Nasim Barhum: "A Slight Security Setback"]

[Text] Unidentified people have sent two shocking messages to Jordan, in Beirut and Amman respectively. It is unlikely, however, that the country will be engulfed in a cycle of violence.

Only a few weeks ago, Jordan was one of the most stable Arab countries, despite isolated events over the past two or three years. But early in February, Jordan was hit by a cycle of violence that had disturbed some Arab countries. In just one week two explosions rocked two movie theaters: in Amman on 27 January and in al-Zarqa', the second-largest city, on 1 February. Also, unidentified gunmen assassinated 'Umran al-Ma'ayitah, first secretary at the Jordanian embassy, in Beirut.

What has given rise to fears in Arab and Jordanian circles is that the security problems have been the result of two factors: first, the emergence of a crisis in Jordanian-Iranian relations, when Amman asked Tehran to withdraw 21 Iranian diplomats from the embassy in Amman. And, second, the official Jordanian announcement that the perpetrators were "Jordanian Afghans" [reference to Jordanians who fought in Afghanistan]. The connection between the security problems and the crisis with Iran and the Arab Afghans gives the situation a political dimension that triggers fears.

Although Jordan has not officially announced that there is a crisis with Iran, and Tehran radio has denied any crisis between the two countries, the Jordanian request for the withdrawal of 21 Iranian diplomats could reflect Jordanian indignation, according to political circles in Amman. They say that the Jordanian authorities accuse Iranian diplomats of meeting with Jordanian Muslim extremists.

Western sources in Amman say that Jordan is not happy with the presence of Iranian ambassador in Amman Ahmad Dastmalchian, who is a former Iranian Revolution guard and played a significant role in establishing Lebanon's Hizballah. However, this has not yet been confirmed.

At any rate, the diplomatic crisis between the two countries is not the only explanation for the outbreak of violence in Jordan. Other circles link these acts to the big strides that Jordan has made on the road to peace. The events occurred a week after King Husayn announced in Washington that he is ready to meet in public with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin. Other circles, however, believe that the incidents were linked, that is, the crisis with Iran coincided with the Jordanian monarch's announcement.

The question is: Are these isolated events transient or are they a prelude to an era of violence in Jordan? This is a particularly important question after the strongly worded statement by Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' that Jordan's political options could affect its internal stability.

It is difficult to answer this question. However, it is most unlikely that the situation in Jordan will become as serious as in some countries, such as in the Arab east or Arab Maghreb. This is because the acts of violence in Algeria, and in a less critical degree in Egypt, are prompted by difficult economic conditions and unemployment. This, however, is not the case in Jordan because the economic situation there is not that bad. Some people even say that the Jordanian economy has improved over the past two years. This is explained in the retreat of the Islamic movement in the recent legislative elections, when it won only 18 out of 81 seats in the parliament. The movement had 32 seats in the past.

Furthermore, the Islamic movement in Jordan is different from that in Algeria or Egypt. It is a movement that has never resorted to violence and has accepted functioning in accordance with the democratic game. The Islamic movement in Jordan has continuously maintained good relations with authorities.

Hence, perhaps this cycle of violence is a transient wave linked to specific tactics by certain regional and local forces, unless there are plans to involve Jordan in the acts of violence.

It is premature to assess the events in Jordan. It is also difficult to say that the storm is over or that it will assume different shapes. What has happened should alert us, but it does not require us to reconsider our stances. What has happened cannot be more than a slight setback linked to certain tactics that are not aimed at sabotaging the strategic stability of Jordan, which represents an important link in the peace process.

## Egypt

### Lack of Reports on Mubarak Assassination Attempt Noted

*NC2002085494 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0430 GMT 20 Feb 94*

[Text] The Islamic Party of Egypt has assumed responsibility for the attack on the passenger train carrying foreign tourists that took place in the vicinity of Asyut. As a result of this attack, two foreign tourists and two Egyptians were injured. According to AFP, the Islamic Party of Egypt issued a statement clarifying that this attack was to avenge the death sentence that has been imposed on three Muslims accused of an attempt on the life of Husni Mubarak.

This is the first time that the Islamic Party has mentioned the attempts by the Muslims against the life of the Egyptian president. The party also vehemently criticized the silence of the domestic media regarding two attempts on the life of Husni Mubarak in past months.

### Cabinet Discusses Measures To Fight Terrorism

*NC2202083294 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 0500 GMT 22 Feb 94*

[Excerpts] In a meeting presided over by Prime Minister Dr. 'Atif Sidqi last night, the Cabinet discussed a program for national action during the current stage that includes an integrated strategy for all fields of action, Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif said at the end of the meeting.

During the special session, Dr. Sidqi noted that elements of stability in Egypt strengthen its ability to play a pivotal role in the region and the world. He pointed out that the phenomenon of terrorism does not affect Egypt's political or economic progress, and the people of Egypt, with their culture and tenacity, will continue the march of development and progress and face all challenges with complete confidence in a bright and stable future. [passage omitted]

The Cabinet also discussed a program for international cooperation to fight terrorism. The program includes a report prepared by the Cabinet expressing appreciation for the positive role played by several countries in providing important information for coordinating the fight against terrorism. The report notes the need to extend bridges of cooperation with more countries to collectively confront terrorist organizations, expedite the conclusion of cooperation agreements with a number of countries on combating terrorism, and regularly supply countries with the facts about terrorist practices and the popular reaction to these crimes. [passage omitted]

### Mubarak Receives Message From al-Qadhdhafi

*NC2202104394 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0920 GMT 22 Feb 94*

[Text] Cairo, 22 Feb (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak this morning received Ibrahim al-Bishari, Libyan permanent delegate to the Arab League, who conveyed a message from Colonel Mu'ammr al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution. The message deals with bilateral relations and the regional situation in general. The message also touches on President Mubarak's efforts to resolve the region's problems and achieve stability, to which everyone aspires.

### Musa Meets With Israeli Envoy on Peace Talks

*NC2002112994 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1100 GMT 20 Feb 94*

[Text] Cairo, 20 Feb (MENA)—Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa today met with Israeli Ambassador David Sultan.

Following the meeting, the Israeli ambassador said that they discussed the current developments in the peace talks and the efforts being made to give impetus to the peace process. He added that the Palestinian and Israeli delegations will resume their meetings in Cairo tomorrow, Monday, and that the Israeli delegation led by Major General Amnon Shahaq will arrived in Cairo tomorrow.

In reply to a question on Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat's accusations that Israel is not carrying out its commitments, the Israeli ambassador said that Israel is committed to all its pledges and hopes that the two sides will reach agreement. He added that the important thing is resuming the Palestinian-Israeli talks and reaching an agreement as soon as possible on the implementation of the Declaration of Principles, especially as the two sides made progress in the negotiations held in Taba last week.

#### Discusses Bosnian Situation With Cetin

*NC2002184894 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1535 GMT 20 Feb 94*

[Text] Cairo, 20 Feb (MENA)—Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa today telephoned his Turkish counterpart, Hikmet Cetin, and reviewed with him the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina. This was disclosed by Minister Musa, who pointed out that Egypt and Turkey are holding constant consultations over this issue.

Answering a question on the approaching deadline given to the Bosnian Serbs with regard to weapons withdrawal from Sarajevo, the Egyptian foreign minister told news reporters that the Serbs will have to withdraw all their heavy weapons to a distance of 20 km from Sarajevo. The removal of heavy guns, he added, should be comprehensive and not partial.

The foreign minister said that in the case of the partial withdrawal of weapons, the NATO's responsibility will continue. With the expiration of the deadline, Musa said, one of two things should take place: either the total withdrawal of all guns or a strike at Serbian positions.

Asked about the situation in other parts of Bosnia, Minister Musa said that decisions concerning Sarajevo should be applicable to other besieged areas of Bosnia.

Concerning his meeting with the Israeli ambassador in Cairo today, Minister Musa said that the meeting dealt with the Palestinian-Israeli talks that will be held in Cairo tomorrow, Monday.

Asked about reports of agreements or security arrangements reached between Iran and some Gulf countries and how such a development would affect the Damascus Declaration, Minister Musa said that these arrangements are still just news reports. The Egyptian foreign minister said that there is no indication of official movement in this direction.

### Calls for Total Withdrawal From Sarajevo

*NC2102151794 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1422 GMT 21 Feb 94*

[Text] Cairo, 21 Feb (MENA)—Commenting on reports that the Serbs have begun withdrawing their heavy weapons from around Sarajevo, Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa said today that the beginning of the implementation of this withdrawal must lead to total withdrawal so that we will be assured that no other aggression will take place against Sarajevo.

Musa said if the work to lift the siege of Sarajevo succeeds, it is necessary and desirable that this also be done at other besieged towns. Thus, several aspects of Serb aggression can be dealt with and a settlement process can begin in a better atmosphere.

Musa added that Egypt is closely watching the situation. It will continue its contacts with the states concerned. He explained that Egypt is maintaining contacts with the European states. It is also maintaining contact with the Islamic state [Bosnia Herzegovina] within the context of the Islamic Conference Organization's interest in this issue.

### NATO, Russia Criticized for Failure To Attack Serbs

*NC2202090194 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2240 GMT 21 Feb 94*

[From the press review]

[Text] Cairo, 21 Feb (MENA)—Cairo papers appearing tomorrow, Tuesday, criticize NATO for failing to carry out its ultimatum and attack Serbian positions encircling Sarajevo.

The newspaper AL-AKHBAR denounces the Russian position, which it says opposes aerial attacks against the criminals of Serbia.

The paper says that the Serbian forces have failed to withdraw all their heavy weapons from around Sarajevo and that the Russians cite the fall of rain and snow as a reason for this failure. The paper adds that the weapons that have been withdrawn are being kept nearby for convenient retrieval and reuse as soon as the crisis caused by the NATO ultimatum blows over.

AL-AKHBAR warns that the situation will remain unchanged and that the Bosnian people will remain prey to the ethnic cleansing policy that Serbs have pursued unchallenged for the past two years.

Another newspaper, AL-WAFD, asserts that NATO has lost its credibility by failing to implement its threat against Bosnian Serbs. NATO, the world's mightiest power, braced itself for action on a promise to salvage the credibility of the international community, punish the Serbian aggressors, and protect the Bosnian people, but failed to stay the course, leaving the tragedy unchanged and the aggressors unpunished.

AL-WAFD warns that the weapons that were said to have been withdrawn from the Serbian positions have actually been hidden for later use. The paper denounces the Russian position, which it says is one of unabashed and unflinching support for the Serbs.

Another daily, AL-JUMHURIYAH, says that the main force shaping the U.S.-European position on Bosnia was not public opinion as much as Europe's need for security and stability.

AL-JUMHURIYAH denounces Russian support for the Serbs. It says that following the collapse of the Soviet Union, unbridled ethnic tensions broke out in Moscow, influencing the Russian decision to side with the Serbs.

The paper adds that, due to the change in the international political scene, European and U.S. pressure in the Adriatic has made the Serbs relax their grip on Sarajevo, or at least pretend to do so.

### Mufti Criticized for Meeting With Israelis

*NC2102221594 Paris AFP in English 2052 GMT 21 Feb 94*

[Text] Cairo, Feb 21 (AFP)—Groups opposed to peace with Israel have launched a media campaign against the mufti of Egypt, accusing him of hosting a conference on the Middle East conflict attended by Israelis.

Mufti Muhammad Sayyid Tantawi denied in press comments Monday [21 February] that he knew that Israelis had attended a conference he sponsored on trying to settle the conflict through psychological analysis.

But the AL-'ARABI newspaper, mouthpiece of the Nasirist pan-Arab party, quoted conference chairman Jamal Madi Abu-al-'Azayim as saying Tantawi had met all the participants, including the Israelis, at his office.

Tantawi is the most prominent religious figure in Egypt, along with the al-Azhar Muslim Academy chairman, Shaykh Jad-al-Haq 'Ali Jad-al-Haq.

The Israeli delegation to the conference numbered 15 members and was headed by former ambassador to Egypt Shim'on Shamir, according to opposition sources.

Columnist Fahmi Huwaydi told AFP "the Islamic world will suffer a shock when it finds out that the Mufti of Egypt met an Israeli delegation" in a Moslem site.

He also said government censorship last week had prevented him from publishing an editorial to denounce the meeting.

Although Egypt signed in 1979 a peace treaty with Israel, relations are almost restricted to official contacts. President Anwar al-Sadat was assassinated in 1981 by Moslem militants for having signed the treaty.

Egypt is the only Arab country which has signed a peace treaty with the Jewish state.

## Libya

### Al-Qadhdhafi: Bosnian Air Strikes 'Absurd' Solution

*LD2002164594 Tripoli JANA in English 1602 GMT 20 Feb 94*

[Text] Tripoli, Al Nowar 20 [Feb] (JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY)—The leader of the revolution [Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi] made the following statement to JANA: The ultimatum on Sarajevo is merely a cat and mouse game. The solution to the problem of Bosnia and Herzegovina does not lie in the shelling of particular armed positions for this is absurd and ridiculous. It is a cover up for there are two issues which are separate from each other. They are the racial annihilation of Muslims and the political issue of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina as far as the method of governing it and the representation of each party. This is purely a political problem which does not require weapons nor be solved by shelling. But the annihilation of Muslims is another issue and beyond Sarajevo. For Muslims are being annihilated everywhere in Yugoslavia and not in Sarajevo. The shelling of some positions has nothing to do with this even if it stopped the annihilation of Muslims. We are with the Serbs in the political problem of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and against them in the racial annihilation of Muslims which is not at all a political issue.

### Diplomat Denies Involvement in Jordanian's Murder

*NC1902130594 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1202 GMT 19 Feb 94*

[Text] Cairo, 19 Feb (MENA)—A ranking Libyan diplomatic source in Cairo has denied that Libya is any way connected to the assassination of Jordanian diplomat Na'ib al-Ma'aytah in Lebanon recently.

The source said in statements today that Libya condemns terrorism in all its forms and that it has cut off all relations with any groups that follow a course of violence instead of dialogue and peaceful negotiations. He denied the presence of Abu-Nidal's [Sabri al-Banna] group on Libyan territory. He also denied that any Libyan officials had met with any members or leaders belonging to Abu-Nidal's group recently.

The Libyan source believes that raising Libya's name in relation to the assassination of the Jordanian diplomat, as some newspaper reports have done, is an attempt to sour Jordanian-Libyan relations, especially during this phase of peace. He stressed Libya's interest in its relations with Lebanon.

### Islamic Laws, End of Latin Calendar Celebrated

*LD1802174694 Tripoli JANA in English 1641 GMT 18 Feb 94*

[Text] Tripoli, al-Nowar [Feb] 18, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The Great Jamahiriyah today celebrated the implementation of Islamic law by promulgating the following laws:

- law of purging.
- law on punishment and compensation for death.
- law on wills.
- law prohibiting alcohol.
- law amending the law on punishment for theft.
- law on the protection of the society from the phenomena prohibited by the Holy Koran.
- law amending some provisions of the law on marriage and divorce.

However, the laws on implementation of Islamic law regarding defamation, adultery and theft were issued in the Great Jamahiryah since the early years of the great al-Fatih revolution.

Also, celebrated were the ending of the use of Latin calendar to make way for the use of Islamic calendar based on the birthday and death of the prophet (pbuh) and the use of Arab and Islamic months. Furthermore, it was decided that the Zawiyah system should be revived as a source of Islamic doctrine teaching like the Zawiyahs of al-Zaruq, al-Asmari, Shu'ayyib, al-Duqali, Ahmad Pasha, Abu-Rawi, al-Mahjub and Tabqa.

### Refusal To Withdraw From Aozou Strip Reported

*LD1902170994 Rabat Moroccan Kingdom Radio Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 19 Feb 94*

[Text] We begin our international news from Tripoli: Libya today considered an immediate withdrawal of its forces stationed in the Aozou strip, disputed with Chad, as out of the question. This came after the International Court of Justice announced its ruling according Chad full sovereignty over the strip.

Press sources have said that Libya might demand the settlement of the question of its lost soldiers in the area with Washington as a condition before announcing its final position regarding withdrawal from the Aozou strip, which is considered by experts to be rich in oil and uranium.

### British Statements on Libyan Nuclear Program Refuted

*LD1902140294 Tripoli Great Jamahiriyah Radio Network in Arabic 1230 GMT 19 Feb 94*

[Commentary by "JANA's international affairs editor"]

[Text] The British defense minister announced that Britain is studying the development of its own defense system, claiming that countries such as Libya constitute a nuclear threat to Britain. The British newspaper THE DAILY EXPRESS reported this statement, coupling it by saying that Libya will be able to manufacture nuclear weapons within 10 years.

JANA's international affairs editor commented by saying: This British official statement is further proof that the Christians are attacking the Muslims within the framework of the Christian-Jewish alliance against Islam. The nuclear weapons that now exist include 200 nuclear warheads owned by the Jews who occupy Palestine, and they admit owning them despite their refusal to sign the Nonproliferation Treaty. No one has talked about these nuclear warheads. No one mentioned them or asked for their removal.

As for Libya, the peaceful country that neither has the capability to own nuclear weapons nor is interested in or thinking of owning nuclear weapons, and which is subject to the annual inspection by the IAEA [International Atomic Energy Agency] because of its signing of the Nonproliferation Treaty, it is accused of this [constituting a danger] and other similar accusations, as if its signing of the Nonproliferation Treaty and the regular IAEA inspection are not sufficient. This shows that the reason for these and other accusations is the fact that the Libyan weapons are not directed against the Arabs. Since the Jewish weapons are directed against the Arabs and Muslims this is allowed and there are no objections to it.

Why? The answer is simply the fact that in the eyes of the Christians and Jews the Arabs are animals or a race that no one wants and should be annihilated.

The editor added: Through this statement the world can see the practices of terrorism against peaceful peoples. This statement, and the statements that preceded it by the U.S. President, saying that Libya constitutes an extraordinary danger, are in themselves real, unprecedented terrorism practiced by superpowers against a peaceful country.

The international affairs editor concluded his comment by saying: These are the characteristics of the new world order to which they call: Terrorism, Jewish and Christian alliance against all non-Jewish religions such as Islam, Buddhism, and Confucianism, in order to establish Jewish and Christian control over the whole world.

## Sudan

### U.S. Ambassador Criticized for Visit to South

*AB2002190094 Khartoum SUNA in English 1740 GMT 20 Feb 94*

[Text] Khartoum, 20 Feb—A political source described the visit of the U.S. ambassador to the Sudan, Donald Nerson [name as received] to some areas in the south of the Sudan without permission from the Sudanese Government as the violation of the national sovereignty of the country and that the U.S. ambassador in Khartoum misused of his responsibility and we do not keep silence on this regard [sentence as received].

The source said in a statement to SUNA that this act came in the context of the open alignment to the rebel movement by the United States.

The source added that the U.S. ambassador act came in the framework of securing the arrival of the war equipments to the rebel movement saying that it is a desperate attempt to raise the spiritual moral of the rebel forces.

### Al-Bashir Meeting With Kenya's Moi Postponed

*EA1802161194 Omdurman Republic of Sudan Radio Network in Arabic 0430 GMT 18 Feb 94*

[Text] Foreign Minister Husayn Sulayman Abu-Salih has announced the postponement of the meeting between President Lieutenant General 'Umar al-Bashir and Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi, at the request of the Kenyan side. He told SUNA [as received] that an envoy of Lieutenant General 'Umar al-Bashir would leave for Nairobi to look into the reasons for the postponement and to confirm Sudan's firm stance towards the Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development [IGADD] initiative, as characterized by Sudan's unreserved backing for the initiative. The envoy would explain that Sudan regarded IGADD as a neighborly group, close to itself, aware of conditions in Sudan and which enjoys life [as heard] for the sake of a peaceful solution. He added that his visit had also been postponed at the request of the Kenyan Foreign Ministry.

His excellency added that the Kenyan ambassador to Sudan had left Sudan for home yesterday after meetings with Sudanese officials in Sudan. He had taken with him the Sudanese Government's request that the IGADD states persevere in their efforts.

## Human Rights Report Said 'Hostile to Islam'

*EA1902170094 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 19 Feb 94*

[Text] Khartoum, 19 Feb (SUNA)—Sudan has called on the United Nations to omit paragraphs hostile to Islam from the report of Gaspar Biro, the special rapporteur on human rights in Sudan. If this demand is not conceded Sudan will reject the report in its entirety and will review its cooperation with the UN agenda on human rights. This was stated in letters sent by Foreign Minister Husayn Abu-Salih to the UN secretary general, the chairman of the Human Rights Committee, the ICO secretary general and the OAU secretary general.

A responsible source at the Foreign Ministry told SUNA that the letters explained that the report contained paragraphs serious in their meanings and aims, but reflecting a lack of respect for Islam. Biro called for action against the Sudanese penal code, which is derived from Islamic law [word indistinct] international and demanded that it be canceled.

The letters pointed out that because the rapporteur's allegations had wronged the whole Muslim nation, he must be interrogated and condemned by all states, organizations and bodies which respect the right of all peoples to choose their legal and political systems.

Moreover, the people's organization in defense of faith and homeland in a statement today called on the UN secretary general to withdraw Biro's report, to put the rapporteur on trial immediately, and to expel him from the United Nations. The United Nations should also apologize to the Islamic nation.

## Al-Sahhaf Says No More Weapons of Mass Destruction

*JN1902202694 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 19 Feb 94*

[Text] Iraqi Foreign Minister Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf has asserted that Iraq has complied with Security Council Resolution 687 on weapons of mass destruction and no longer has any of these weapons or the capacity to manufacture them.

In a statement to Qatari state television last night, he said that although Iraq implemented the provisions of that resolution, it is repeatedly accused of failure to abide by international resolutions for political reasons and to maintain the blockade imposed on it.

He added that U.S.-led foreign parties in the Security Council have political purposes unrelated to the Gulf crisis.

This is the second time the Qatari television has held an interview with Iraqi officials. A week ago, it aired a report on the unjust blockade, including an interview with Trade Minister Muhammad Mahdi Salih.

## More on al-Sahhaf Remarks

*NC1902094594 Paris AFP in English 0859 GMT 19 Feb 94*

[Text] Doha, Feb 19 (AFP)—Iraq no longer has any weapons of mass destruction and is fulfilling Gulf war ceasefire conditions set by the United Nations, Iraqi Foreign Minister Muhammad Sa'id al- Sahhaf has said.

"Iraq is implementing (UN Security Council) Resolution 687 and no longer has any weapons of mass destruction or the capacity to manufacture them," al-Sahhaf said in an interview shown on Qatari state television Friday.

The resolution set the terms for ending the 1991 Gulf war, in particular the elimination of all Baghdad's programmes for nuclear, chemical and biological weapons.

UN sanctions, including an oil embargo, were imposed four days after Iraq invaded Kuwait on August 2, 1990.

Al-Sahhaf accused certain members of the Security Council, "notably the United States," of prolonging the political and economic embargo "for political reasons totally unrelated to the (Gulf) crisis."

He reiterated Iraq's refusal to export some of its oil under UN supervision, in accordance with Resolution 706.

"This resolution cannot be applied because it has changed from being a humanitarian resolution to a colonialist one."

It was the second time a senior Iraqi official had appeared on Qatari television since the Gulf crisis. Last Saturday the television screened a report on Iraq's economic problems under the UN embargo, and invited Iraqi Commerce Minister Muhammad Mahdi Salih to speak on the programme.

Apart from Oman, Qatar is the only member of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) to have renewed contacts with Baghdad since the Gulf war.

The other GCC members are Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain.

On Thursday al-Sahhaf told the UN Human Rights Commission in Geneva "the lifting of the iniquitous blockade and the injustice done to the Iraqi people is a humanitarian responsibility."

He urged that the "use of the weapon of economic sanctions and the policy of starvation" be abandoned.

## Foreign Minister Urges End to Economic Embargo

*JN1802111894 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0930 GMT 18 Feb 94*

[Text] Geneva, 17 Feb (INA)—Foreign Minister Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf has urged the UN Security Council to fulfill its obligations and move immediately to lift the economic embargo imposed on Iraq.

In a speech he delivered at the general session of the disarmament conference in Geneva today, al-Sahhaf said: Iraq has fulfilled all of its obligations as stipulated in the relevant UN Security Council resolutions. The Security Council must, for its part, fulfill its obligations that are stipulated in Paragraph 22 of Resolution 687 and lift the economic embargo, which it imposed on Iraq and which is no longer justified even on the basis of the Security Council resolutions themselves.

The foreign minister added that the continuation of the unjust blockade on Iraq provides clear evidence that certain hegemonistic states wish to impose on the world community their own political stands which are not related to the UN Charter, the international law, and the principles of justice and fairness.

The foreign minister urged the disarmament conference to work for halting the arms race in which some Middle Eastern states are engaged. He said Iraq was one of the first states to demand that the Middle East be freed from the weapons of mass destruction.

He noted that Iraq and the other Arab states had warned that the Zionist entity possesses large stockpiles of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons as well as long-range missiles that can deliver these weapons to targets thousands of kilometers away and refuses to sign the nonproliferation treaty.

The minister said: Paragraph 14 of UN Security Council Resolution 687 stipulates the setting up of a zone free from the weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery. Three years after that resolution was issued, we have not yet seen any serious move to implement this paragraph. Instead, we see a feverish race by certain Middle Eastern states to acquire arms, including major efforts to possess and develop weapons of mass destruction.

In his speech, the minister wondered about the reasons behind the zeal shown by certain states to pursue Iraq, threaten it with the use of military force, and then actually using brutal, military force against it, while at the same turning a blind eye to, and even helping others, the Zionist entity for example, acquire and develop weapons of mass destruction.

He said: Is it not the right, and even the duty, of the world community and this conference to ask if security, peace, and stability can be achieved through such biased and twisted methods and policies.

The foreign minister emphasized that Iraq's position on chemical weapons was made clear at the Paris Conference of 1989. Iraq, he said, asserted its commitment to the Geneva Protocol of 1925 and support to the world efforts to halt the armament drive. Iraq was one of the first states to sign the nonproliferation treaties and agreements. Iraq also emphasized that the call for a complete ban on chemical weapons must be associated with a call for a complete ban on nuclear weapons.

The foreign minister urged the international community to deal fairly with the issues of security and stability in the Middle East and to abandon double-standards. He also called on the Security Council to expeditiously implement Paragraph 14 of Resolution 687.

He said: We believe that the conference's top priority is to take swift measures to guarantee the implementation of Paragraph 14 of Resolution 687 to turn the Middle East into an area free of mass destruction weapons. The conference should not allow certain countries, which are known to all, to exploit the delicate stage through which the Middle East is passing, to make suspicious transient gains which will certainly lead to further imbalance, which will undermine security and stability in the region, and which will expose the security and interests of the people in the region to very sever dangers.

The foreign minister added in his speech: The development in international relations, during the past decade and at the beginning of the present decade, calls on all members of the international community to accept that the equal-footing participation of all states in developing human common interests is necessary. This participation should be based on the provisions of the UN Charter, the rules of the international law, and on justice. This participation also should be far away from double standards and selectivity in implementing these provisions and rules; it should be in the service of genuine security and stability in the various parts of the world.

Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf stressed that the achievement of this requires the adoption of disarmament arrangements and measures on fair and objective bases which guarantee the countries' natural rights to security and peace and which respect their sovereignty and independence. No country or a group of countries should be allowed to make gains or privileges at the expense of other countries.

Al-Sahhaf said: Proceeding from this understanding, included in the final document of the 10th extraordinary session of the UN General Assembly, Iraq took part in the disarmament conference in 1989 as an observer. On the basis of this understanding also, Iraq built its stand which calls for expanding the membership of the conference so that it will include the countries which have a desire for membership.

The minister added: In 1991, a comprehensive aggressive war was launched against Iraq. More than half a million soldiers from the armed forces of more than 30 countries, including superpowers and major countries, took part in this war. They used in this war all the conventional and nonconventional weapons they have in their arsenals, including some internationallybanned weapons. Immediately following the cease-fire, difficult—in fact unique and unprecedented—conditions were imposed on Iraq.

In his speech, the foreign minister touched on Resolutions 687 and 715 issued by the Security Council in 1991. These resolutions contain a series of measures to destroy some weapons and the material and equipment associated with them as well as to lay down a mechanism for continuous monitoring.

Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf stressed that Iraq has cooperated with the UN Special Commission and the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] to implement the measures included in Resolution 687.

He said: After three years of work with the UN Special Commission and the IAEA, it has become clear that Iraq has implemented the required steps stipulated in Part C of Resolution 687. This fact was clearly stated in the reports and joint minutes adopted during four sessions of high-level talks between Iraq and the IAEA.

Addressing the 50 members taking part in a session held by the UN Human Rights Commission which began in Geneva today, Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf said that Iraq's genuine belief in the principles of the 1948 Universal Declaration on Human Rights and the 1993 Vienna Declaration emanates from its history and civilization. He said that respect for and enhancement of human rights since they are an essential human reality are taken for granted.

He added that proceeding from this belief and true understanding, Iraq ratified many international charters dealing with human rights, the last of which was the ratification of the child's rights convention. Iraq is also studying those charters that were not ratified. In addition, it is actively and effectively participating in conferences and meetings that deal with human rights.

Al-Sahhaf spoke about the violations of human rights. He said that what is actually happening in the world today is that human rights are regrettably being used as a political weapon to shake the political regimes of states, interfere in their internal affairs, and fragment their national unity and cohesion just like what is happening in many parts of the world including my country, Iraq.

He affirmed that as a result of this, the issue of human rights has become an issue of interests that is somehow affected by the policies of some major powers in our modern world. There is no issue that is more controversial in terms of standards and selectivity than the issue of human rights.

Our evidence is that the UN Human Rights Commission is always abreast of all the terrible violations of human rights and the human international law in Palestine and the occupied Arab territories. Many resolutions were issued condemning these violations. Moreover, in light of the world community's inability to implement these resolutions, Israel continued to disregard the basic human rights in these areas and pursued its violation of these rights. The world today is witnessing what is happening in Yugoslavia while the United Nations is unable to find a solution to this tragedy. Without doubt, this is attributed to the stands of some major powers which follow the policy of selectivity and double standards in their international dealing.

The foreign minister continued: Through its constitution and laws, Iraq sought to establish the state of law by following a realistic and practical policy that adopts the requirements of establishing a community that is balanced in its economic, political, and cultural growth.

This balance gave priority to economic, social, cultural, and scientific infrastructures. This reflected positively on building the individual and on the requirements for the growth, prosperity, and development of human rights. This was actually accomplished by combating illiteracy and making education compulsory at all levels and by taking care of the status of women, children, and the handicapped.

This reflected clearly on all economic, social, and cultural rights. It is enough to note here what Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, former executive delegate of the UN secretary general, said on 15 July 1991 in his report to the UN secretary general when he referred to the background of the situation in Iraq. In his report Khan said: As of mid-1990 Iraq, in certain ways, was rapidly approaching a level similar to that reached by some European countries.

Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf said he regrets the attitude demonstrated by certain states toward these Iraqi trends. He said: That independent course was received with negative reactions from abroad, demonstrated by an unfair campaign of accusations and allegations on human rights violations in Iraq. The human rights issue was used as a weapon to obstruct Iraq's development plans and national programs to build the institutions concerned with democracy and human rights. However, Iraq's determination to continue with its programs has not, and will not weaken. Iraq has adopted several laws and measures and made several decisions which emphasize respect for the will of the Iraqi individual and his right to a dignified life, and which allow him to exercise his basic rights even under the hard conditions facing our country.

The minister said: It is difficult for human rights to flourish during crises and armed conflicts, but their respect is enhanced when security, peace, and stability prevail. We began to feel this after the end of the war between Iran and Iraq on 8 August 1988 and until August 1990. During that short period of time, discussions started on a draft for a new constitution. Also, emergency laws and resolutions issued during the period in which Iraq was defending itself against the Iranian aggression were reconsidered and several of them were annulled. Citizens were allowed to travel abroad and a new phase in building a multiparty system was launched. The Party Law and a new law guaranteeing the freedom of the press were issued. Emergency laws and legislations which Iraq had to use because of the war with Iran were annulled. This new reality soon changed, and was adversely affected by the comprehensive war launched against Iraq on 17 January 1991 in which all types of destructive and internationally-banned weapons were used. Undoubtedly, the respected members of the human rights committee realize that these conditions, which were imposed on my country, as well as the unjust economic embargo, have produced negative effects on human rights in general.

Al-Sahhaf denounced the inhuman attitude of the states that seek to blemish Iraq's reputation in the field of human rights. He said: Those who call for human rights, accuse the Government of Iraq of violating human rights and try to show the world that they care for the Iraqi people, have committed the ugliest crimes against Iraq before and after the military aggression in January 1991. They still insist on continuing their genocide crime against our people by insisting on maintaining the comprehensive blockade despite the fact that the reasons on which these states based their decision to impose the blockade, are no longer valid.

He added: One of the constant serious effects of the blockade, which has affected all segments of the Iraqi society, is the deterioration in the food situation to dangerous rates. Here, I wish to refer to a report by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, FAO, issued in August 1993 on food expectations. I also wish to note the acute shortage in medicines and medical needs, especially after the medical shipments contracted by the Health Ministry before 2 August 1990 were halted although their price was paid in advance to the supplying companies. Additionally, health institutions, medical equipment, and utilities sustained heavy damage in the hostile air bombardment. The level of medical care also dropped because of the spread of diseases and epidemics, which principally affected women and children.

Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf described the immense damage that the people of Iraq have suffered as a result of the continuation of this blockade, which has not only harmed the dignity and livelihood of the Iraqi people, but also their economic, social, cultural, civil, and political rights. He said: The lack of stability, high prices, and scarcity of basic food commodities and medicines has had terrible consequences despite the exhaustive efforts of the Iraqi Government.

Al-Sahhaf added: This embargo has seriously affected many aspects of the human rights situation on the one hand, and the overall development process on the other. For, it is widely known that international human rights conventions make it incumbent upon world states to cooperate to uphold these rights. Meanwhile, what is happening to Iraq as a result of the embargo is the outcome of a calculated decision to obstruct the government's efforts to honor its national and international commitments as enshrined in these conventions.

The foreign minister indicated that the continued enforcement of the economic embargo has not only undermined the humanitarian, economic, social, and cultural activities of average citizens, but also contributed to the obstruction of the national political program of democracy devised by the Iraqi Government.

The minister recalled that several of these moves pertaining to the Constitution, the freedom of press, the multiparty system, and other aspects that constitute the main focus of this esteemed commission were expected to have been accomplished. However, the minister noted, there is a fact that we must enlighten you about, namely, that the politicians who contemplated launching political parties in accordance with the government program have been forced to abandon their plans by the harsh circumstances imposed by the embargo. This is because their main concern right now is the harsh living conditions and health situation to which their families are being subjected. Consequently, the lifting of the economic embargo that has been clamped on the Iraqi people will be instrumental in the rapid consummation of the moves the Iraqi Government has made in the area of human rights, al-Sahhaf maintained.

The foreign minister held the international community in general responsible for redressing the Iraqi people's sufferings, saying: Lifting the unfair embargo imposed on the Iraqi people and ending the injustice meted out against them is a humanitarian responsibility that must be shouldered by all, including the UN Human Rights Commission.

Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf urged the UN Human Rights Commission to endorse a policy banning the use of economic embargoes and starvation, because this blatantly contravenes the most basic human rights principles and rules the Human Rights Commission upholds.

The foreign minister said he hopes the commission will adopt a stand that calls for lifting the embargo imposed on Iraq, because such a stand would be in line with its humanitarian approach and the rules of the humane international law.

## Serbian Military Team Visits, To Discuss Air Raids

*NC1902144894 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi People in Arabic 1400 GMT 19 Feb 94*

[Text] The regime of tyrant Saddam Husayn has strengthened its relations with the Serbian regime in former Yugoslavia. At the invitation of 'Ali Hasan al-Majid, the Iraqi regime's defense minister, a team of Serbian military experts recently arrived in Baghdad to exchange information and discuss the results of air raids against Iraq during the Gulf war. A Bosnian military source said the military and political similarity between the two regimes pushed them toward rapprochement and coordination.

## Rival Kurdish Groups Sign 'Peace' Deal

*NC1802073494 Paris AFP in English 2216 GMT 17 Feb 94*

[Text] Amman, Feb 17 (AFP)—Two rival Kurdish groups in northern Iraq signed a peace deal on Thursday, ending a bloody feud and pledging to work together against President Saddam Husayn, the opposition said.

The coalition Iraqi National Congress (INC) said the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) and the Kurdistan Islamic League (KIL) signed at its hedquarters in Salah al-Din, in the Kurdish-controlled north.

They agreed to release all prisoners and for KIL to take part in the Kurdish administration and its institutions, the INC said in a statement sent to AFP in the Jordanian capital.

At least 72 people were killed and 250 wounded in battles between the PUK and the pro-Iranian KIL in December and January.

## Economic Collapse Threatens 'Suicidal Popular Uprising'

*NC2002153394 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi People in Arabic 1400 GMT 20 Feb 94*

[Text] Reliable reports from Baghdad yesterday said that gradually and cautiously evolving developments threaten a suicidal popular uprising to be led this time by hungry Iraqis who, thanks to soaring prices of essential commodities and an all-time low Iraqi dinar, find it hard to survive. The reports said the Iraqi people are effectively on the threshold of a mammoth revolution to express their anger with the unjust regime, which is primarily responsible for the people's bitter suffering today.

The reports said a state of extreme tension and anxiety prevail in the streets of Baghdad and the governorates in anticipation of possible developments in the next few days if the economic deterioration and collapse continue and hunger, want, and destitution affecting the overwhelming majority of citizens sharpen.

## Daily Says Saudis, Iranians 'Smuggling' Sheep

*JN1802152194 Baghdad AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 13 Feb 94 p 2*

[Report by Latif al-Tayyib]

[Text] The Interior Ministry emphasized that some Arab and foreign quarters are involved in smuggling sheep and certain items of state property out of Iraq.

Staff General 'Abd-al-Jawad Dhanun, the ministry's senior undersecretary, said that specialized authorities in the Iraqi border posts caught large numbers of sheep set to be smuggled abroad. He said the sheep are smuggled to Jordan first as a transit point, and then are smuggled to the agent Saudi regime, which is trying, through various means, to undermine the Iraqi economy. The second destination of smuggling is the Autonomous Region.

He added that a number of criminals steal state property and private vehicles, in collusion with the Iranian regime, which hates the Iraqi people, to smuggle the property and vehicles to Iran through various channels.

He said that, through their sabotage actions, the Saudi and Iranian regimes have proven once again their direct involvement in the imperialist-Zionist scheme led by the United States and Zionism with the aim of undermining Iraq's capabilities and weakening its steadfastness in face of the unjust siege imposed on our steadfast people. These two regimes want to increase the suffering of the people of Iraq.

He added that the Saudi agent regime concentrates on female sheep in a dirty attempt to reduce the number of these animals, which are important to Iraq's national economy. This scheme has increased the meat prices in all governorates despite the fact that the Interior Ministry allows the movement of sheep between governorates, except these near the borders, in order to secure red meat. The free movement of sheep is also designed to help secure a balance in the availability of meat in all governorates in accordance with their population, and with special emphasis on Baghdad Governorate because a huge number of people live in the capital in comparison with other governorates.

## 'Failure' of U.S.-Japanese Summit Analyzed

*JN2102125494 Baghdad BABIL in Arabic 16 Feb 94 p 1*

[Article by Salah al-Mukhtar: "Allies or Satellites?!"]

[Text] The U.S.-Japanese summit has ended in failure. The waffler Clinton could not force the Japanese prime minister to accept firmer restrictions on Japanese trade, such as giving more facilities for the entry of U.S. products into Japan.

Japan's rejection stems from the essence of U.S. policy and logic and the market economy laws. Market economy, in the U.S. book, means several things, primarily free prices, which are determined by the market's supply and demand. However, the United States, as a result of the decline in its industry and economy, cannot compete with Japan by using democratic means. Therefore, the only way to stop the Japanese march on U.S. markets is to use force.

The United States has said it will impose sanctions on Japan because Japan did not restrict its trade and set limits to the free flow of goods. This position highlights two facts: The United States adheres to the market economy when this enables it to sneak into other countries, sabotage their economy, and control them. The United States, however, rejects the market economy when the other party is a stronger competitor, like Japan. Thus, the United States has clearly deviated from its capitalist economic system.

The other fact is that those who are called U.S. allies are, in reality, not allies but satellites. This is because an ally enjoys independence and equal opportunities and rights. However, if this ally accepts what is unacceptable to it under normal circumstances, then it is a satellite and not an ally. The world is now taking interest in these two facts, especially those who are described as America's allies. Those people have started to realize clearly that the United States wants to turn them into slaves who carry out orders. Is it time for another Spartacus to appear and lead an uprising of the slaves of the major world powers?

## Rabin Minimizes Delegation's Visit to Syria

*TA1802191694 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1800 GMT 18 Feb 94*

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has played down the significance of an Israeli delegation receiving an invitation to visit Damascus, calling it too little, too late. According to the prime minister, the Syrians have again failed to show even one percent of the goodwill shown by Anwar al-Sadat when he proved he was ready for peace.

Speaking to Spanish and Portuguese reporters today before his visit to the Iberian Peninsula next week, the prime minister revealed that Damascus insisted that the Israeli Arab delegation travel without their Israeli passports.

[Jerusalem New Channel 2 Television Network in Hebrew at 1800 GMT on 18 February reports that "Our political correspondent 'Imanu'el Rosen adds that sources in Jerusalem claimed that the initiative for the trip came from the prime minister. Knesset Member 'Abd-al-Wahab Darawshah, the head of the delegation, denied this claim, asserting that the initiative was completely his."]

## Rabinovich on Darawshah's Invitation to Damascus

*TA2002144394 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 20 Feb 94 pp A1, A10*

[Report by political correspondent Aluf Ben]

[Excerpts] Referring to Syrian President al-Asad's agreement to accept a condolence-bearing delegation of Israeli Arabs headed by Knesset Member [MK] 'Abd-al-Wahab Darawshah, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said on 18 February that it is "too little, too late." Professor Itamar Rabinovich, Israel's ambassador to the United States, issued a similar reaction. Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres said this is "a positive signal" from al-Asad.

Syria announced that it will allow the delegation to arrive in Syria only through a third country, and not directly from Israel through the Golan Heights, and that it will not stamp the visitors' passports. Political sources in Jerusalem said yesterday that the fact that Darawshah was invited to Damascus should not be overrated. At the same time, they pointed out two positive aspects: the fact that Syria has agreed to allow the visit of an Israeli MK, and the fact that al-Asad accepted the Israeli pressure and approved the visit. [passage omitted]

Ambassador Rabinovich said that the Syrian Government agreement to receive the delegation headed by MK Darawshah is of certain importance, but it should be viewed in the right perspective. "This is one step, but additional and more significant steps are needed for us to be able to say that Syria is taking steps to project the feeling that it has indeed undergone a change of heart with regard to Israel," Rabinovich told reporters in Washington.

Ambassador Rabinovich added that "it is clear to us that al-Asad is not al-Sadat, that he will not follow the latter's example, but there is still a giant gap between what Syria could do and this step. Inviting Darawshah and receiving the U.S. delegation of inspection of the MIA's and POW's issue are beginnings; we expect a continuation." Israeli sources said that the visit to Damascus by MK Darawshah was raised in the meeting of the chief Israeli and Syrian delegates to the bilateral negotiations, and that the issue "was handled in a practical manner which indicates that the Syrians wish to prove that the Washington track is alive and active."

In the first week of the current round of the Washington talks with the Syrian representatives, Israel asked that a discussion be devoted to the time aspect of the negotiations—that is, to the relation between the stages of withdrawal from the Golan Heights and the stages of implementing the full peace. The Syrian delegate, however, again demanded that the depth of the Israeli withdrawal be discussed first. [passage omitted]

[A report from Washington by Hayim Shibi on page 4 of Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew on 20 February adds: "Senior sources in the Israeli delegation for talks with Syria disclosed last weekend that one of the ideas to break the ice in the negotiations between Israel and Syria is to have President 'Ezer Weizman invited to Damascus to meet Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad."]

## Peres 'Sharply Attacks' Syrian Attitude in Talks

*TA2102141094 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1300 GMT 21 Feb 94*

[Text] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres said today that he does not share the assessment that Egyptian President Mubarak's regime is threatened. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that in a meeting with the Labor Knesset caucus, Peres said that Mubarak's regime handles fundamentalist violence with political wisdom and appropriate force. Peres stressed that signs of economic development are clearly visible in Egypt.

The foreign minister sharply attacked the Syrian attitude toward the peace process. He said that we have a right to demand that it raise the level of negotiators to that of heads of state or senior ministers. The Syrians must adjust to international standards. We will not get far if we continue the Syrian way of negotiating. The talks with them are still bogged down, Peres said.

## Peres: Palestinian Talks Close to Conclusion

*TA2102180494 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1700 GMT 21 Feb 94*

[Text] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres says the negotiations with the Palestinians are close to a conclusion within a short time, due to the fact that the Palestinian representatives at the negotiations, including 'Arafat, have adopted a businesslike attitude.

Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that speaking at a meeting of the Labor Knesset faction, Peres again emphasized that leaving the settlement of Netzarim in place is, in his words, unreasonable. He maintained that the two companies the Army will have to deploy to ensure the security of Netzarim could be better deployed on the Trans-Samaria highway, where they will safeguard traffic.

## IDF To Prepare for 'Accelerated Withdrawal'

*TA2202051994 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0500 GMT 22 Feb 94*

[Text] The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] has received instructions to prepare for an accelerated withdrawal from the Gaza Strip so that the responsibility for preventing terrorist attacks in the area can be swiftly turned over to the Palestinians.

Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that officials in Jerusalem expressed the assessment that the negotiations with the Palestinians will be concluded within two weeks.

## Paper Reports on U.S. Plans for Representation in Gaza

*TA2002124394 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 20 Feb 94 p 3*

[Report by Mikhal Sela']

[Text] The United States is considering the possibility of opening an official representative institution in the Gaza Strip after the withdrawal of IDF [Israel Defense Forces] troops from the area. This was reported yesterday to DAVAR by a Gaza Strip Palestinian who meets with Americans on a regular basis.

U.S. Ambassador Edward Djerejian toured the Gaza Strip 15 February and met with local Palestinian leaders. Representatives of foreign embassies conduct weekly visits to the Gaza Strip. It has not yet been decided whether or not to open a consulate, culture center, or some other form of official representation; however, the issue is occasionally discussed by U.S. diplomats and Palestinian officials. The Americans have already told the Palestinians that whatever form the representation takes, it will not be established before progress is made in implementing the Palestinian-Israeli agreement.

France and the United Kingdom maintain culture centers in the Gaza Strip. Representatives of various European countries are also discussing the possibility of opening legations—consulates, culture centers, or other institutions—in the Gaza Strip with local Palestinian officials.

## 'Terrorists' Kill Ari'el Resident in Ambush

### IDF Imposes Curfew

*TA1902053294 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0500 GMT 19 Feb 94*

[Text] Terrorists last night shot and killed a woman resident of the Samaria town of Ari'el. The attack took place as she was traveling with her husband and two children near the village of Qarawat Bani-Hasan west of Ari'el. Two bursts of fire were directed from a stationary vehicle. The woman, whose name has not yet been released, was hit in the head. Her husband did not stop the car, and rushed to a nearby Army base, from where she was evacuated by ambulance to Beilinson Hospital in Petah Tiqva. She died soon after. Our reporter says she was in the fifth month of pregnancy.

At the site of the attack, the casings of Kalashnikov bullets were found. The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] has imposed a curfew on the area, and a hunt is on for the terrorists.

### Hamas Claims Responsibility

*TA1902111994 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0900 GMT 19 Feb 94*

[Text] Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] has claimed responsibility for the attack on the trans-Samaria highway, that killed Tzipora Sason from Ari'el. Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that graffiti sprayed in the Ramallah area said the 'Izz-al-Din al-Qassam squad had perpetrated the attack. [Reporting on Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 0905 on 19 February, Amir adds that a Hamas leaflet faxed to the radio station and signed by 'Izz-al-Din al-Qassam also claimed responsibility for the attack.]

Our correspondent further reports that after the attack, the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] detained several men suspected of participating in the act or possessing knowledge about the perpetrators.

Tzipora Sason was shot by two rounds fired from a parked vehicle at the car in which she was traveling with her husband and two children. She was hit in the head and abdomen, and she died of her wounds.

Our correspondent notes that Major General Dani Yatom, the Central Command commander, and Major General Sha'ul Mufaz, the IDF regional commander, are overseeing the investigation on the site of the attack.

Reacting to the attack, Likud Chairman Binyamin Netanyahu said the government should beef up the IDF deployment in the area and launch an offensive on terrorists, rather than preoccupy itself with withdrawal.

Tzomet Chairman Refa'el Eytan told our correspondent Hayim Hecht that the IDF should clamp a curfew on all the Arab villages along the trans-Samaria highway and maintain it until the murderers are apprehended.

Moledet leader Knesset Member Rehav'am Ze'evi called on the government to provide Jews residing in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza with full protection.

[Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 0900 GMT on 19 February adds that reacting to the attack, the YI'UD [Independent and Democratic Israel] faction said all Hamas activists suspected of terrorist activity should be deported, and a closure should be imposed on Arab population centers in the territories."]

### Jewish Residents Block Roads, Protest

*TA1902184294 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1800 GMT 19 Feb 94*

[Text] Hundreds of Jewish residents of Samaria are now demonstrating at the Morasha junction to protest the murder of Tzipora Sason by terrorists on the Trans-Samaria highway last night. Our correspondent Yafa Glick reports that a large police contingent is trying to prevent the demonstrators from blocking the road and that there are sporadic clashes between protesters and the police.

Qiryat Arba' residents are currently blocking the main road from Hebron to Jerusalem to protest the recurrent stone throwing at Israeli vehicles. Our correspondent Gil Litman reports that army and Border Police forces are at the scene and that Tzvi Katzover, the Qiryat 'Arba local council chairman, has been arrested.

### Further on Roadblock Protest

*TA2102053994 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0500 GMT 21 Feb 94*

[Excerpts] In the territories last night, an IDF [Israel Defense Forces] soldier was lightly wounded by terrorist gunfire near Rafah in the Gaza Strip. The attack took place near the border between Rafah and Egypt, when machine-gun fire was directed at an Army jeep patrolling in the area. Army troops returned the fire, and two residents of Rafah were injured.

Meanwhile, in the center of Hebron, a bomb was set off last night on one of the main streets. It exploded but caused no injuries or damage.

Settlers in the territories are now blocking roads in protest over the murder of Tzipora Sason, the 30-year old woman from Ari'el who was shot by terrorists last Friday night. At the site of one of the roadblocks is reporter Mark Weiss:

[Begin recording] Groups of settlers at five locations throughout the West Bank set up roadblocks at 5 o'clock this morning. Coordinated by the YESHA' [Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip] settlers council, the protesters burned tires and threatened to turn back Arab vehicles; however, nearly all Arab cars turned back before reaching the settlers' roadblocks or, as in the past, planned to wait till 7 o'clock before traveling on the roads, knowing that the demonstrations end at 7 o'clock. [passage omitted]

Large numbers of soldiers and police are on hand, but so far there have been no confrontations, and the security forces have decided not to disperse the settlers and to allow the protests to continue. [end recording]

### Rabin Comments

*TA2002055594 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0500 GMT 20 Feb 94*

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] In many places in Israel there were demonstrations yesterday to protest the murder of Tzipora Sason. Our military affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe reports that the security forces are continuing the manhunt in search of the murderers, but so far without any results. The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] will beef up its presence in the Trans-Samaria highway and adjacent areas. A senior military source told our correspondent that over the last few months security presence has been increased along the Trans-Samaria highway, but there are dozens of Arab villages on both sides of the road, and this makes it hard to prevent attacks.

Some 25-28 wanted men from the rejectionist front organizations and Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] are active In Judaea and Samaria, as well as three 'Izz-al-Din al-Qassam squads.

Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said that the Palestinian detainees who participated in terror attacks will not be released. He emphasized that first the problem of the Israeli MIA's must be solved, as well as that of the inhabitants of the territories who have aided Israel—only then will Israel discuss the release of the Palestinian detainees.

Over the last few days the Palestinian representatives negotiating with Israel have said that unless it is ensured that all the Palestinian detainees are released, they will not sign the full agreement with Israel.

### Cabinet Briefed on Attack

*TA2002115194 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1100 GMT 20 Feb 94*

[Text] Today's cabinet session was held in the shadow of Tzipora Sason's murder. Despite the police minister's recommendation to tighten the closure in the territories, the government took no decisions on this issue. Our political correspondent Udi Segal reports from the Prime Minister's Office:

[Begin recording] [Segal] PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will set up his residence in Jericho by the end of May, according to Minister Yosi Sarid. Sarid bases this assessment on the progress made in the negotiations between

Israel and the PLO. Sarid added, however, that 'Arafat must reduce the level of terrorism, otherwise terrorism will reduce him.

In today's cabinet session, the cabinet was briefed about the grave attack in Ari'el, which the ministers called a shocking attack. The prime minister decided not to discuss the issue of a closure. Despite the police minister's recommendation to tighten the closure, the government took no decisions in this issue. This is what Minister Amnon Rubinstein had to say following the session:

[Rubinstein] The prime minister did not recommend reimposing or exacerbating the closure, although the issue is hovering in the air. It was said that if the closure is reimposed we have to prepare for it properly, a thing we failed to do last time. It is also feared that a closure will exacerbate the situation in the Gaza Strip.

[Segal] Rubinstein said that according to figures submitted to the cabinet this morning, 19 Palestinians were murdered by other Palestinians during the first two weeks of the month. 'Arafat will have to deal with this difficult situation. [passage omitted]

## 'Numerous Incidents' in Territories Reported

*TA1802122294 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 18 Feb 94 p A3*

[Report by military correspondent Eytan Rabin and Shlomo Dror]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Numerous incidents took place yesterday throughout the West Bank, including Hebron, Halhul, and Ramallah. In Halhul, residents rioted in protest over the 16 February killing of a local resident by soldiers. The man, a student by the name of Marwan Sa'ada, was 19 years old. Two Halhul residents sustained slight injuries yesterday. Army sources said the locals threw stones at soldiers, who opened fire in response. One of the injured is 19-year-old 'Abid Muhammad Sa'id. Palestinian sources said the second casualty, Ayub Milhim, was shot in the head by settlers traveling in a car that came under a barrage of stones. The two wounded men were transferred to the 'Aliya and al-Wahali Hospitals in Hebron.

Four locals were wounded—two in Rafah and two in the Jabalyah refugee camp—in clashes with soldiers in the Gaza Strip yesterday. Two soldiers were slightly injured by stones in Gaza. They received medical treatment on the spot and were sent back to their units.

A resident of the al-Mughazi refugee camp in the central Strip was murdered yesterday because he was suspected of collaboration. The man, 'Abdallah Abad, was abducted from his home by Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] activists. His wife was seriously wounded.

Military sources have stated that a rise has been noted in incidents in the territories inspired by Hamas and the Islamic Jihad. The security forces are still in pursuit of the terrorist squad that murdered Shin Bet squad operator No'am Kohen near Ramallah.

Yesterday, the terrorists who murdered No'am Kohen this week called on Palestinian collaborators to turn on those who recruited them and promised protection and pardon to anyone who murders his operator.

Declaring a war on the Shin Bet, the 'Izz-al-Din al-Qassam squad pledged to put an end to the phenomenon of Palestinian collaboration with Israel. "We will regard every collaborator who kills his operator and brings us his weapon and identity card as a convert," said a leaflet disseminated by a group calling itself the "al-Qassam Psychological Warfare Department."

Squad members said they will arm the converted collaborators and find them asylum.

An approximately 50-year-old resident of Bethlehem was found battered and tied up in a cave in Jerusalem yesterday. A preliminary investigation revealed that the man had been kidnapped from his home by three masked men who accused him of collaboration with Israel. [passage omitted]

## King Hosts Yemeni Accord Signing Ceremony

### Delivers Opening Address

*JN2002163294 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1430 GMT 20 Feb 94*

[Address by King Husayn at the opening ceremonies for the signing of the Yemeni document of pledge and accord at the Royal Hashemite Court in Amman—live]

[Text] In the name of God, and peace and prayers be on his honest prophet. Your Excellency the chairman of the Presidential Council; Your Excellency the vice chairman of the Presidential Council; dear brothers: God's peace and mercy be upon you, the creme de la creme of the Yemeni people; our people and beloved ones, may you enjoy God's protection, and may he guide us to what pleases him.

You and Yemen, like every remote and wondrous destination that can only be reached after one has travelled a distance toward it—a distance we covered over five long months in response to the call of duty to brotherhood and to safeguard unity and all the hopes and ideals and values that reside in the hearts of all the Arabs. Our hopes have been drawn to Sanaa and Aden, to the men who have made unity and carried the burden of protecting it so it can be a vanguard and contribution to a comprehensive Arab awakening in the face of fragmentation, divisions, and territorial parochialism—a reawakening founded on freedom and democracy, justice, brotherhood, purity, confidence, and complementarity. We began this reawakening years ago, when we met as brothers in Arabism and Islam and rid ourselves of any parochial benefit or regional sense or minor objective, as we went about setting up the Arab Cooperation Council with our cousins. We called for the introduction of a new age among ourselves, armed with awareness, patience, and content. We argued for a joint march seeking good for all the Arabs and a mobilization of the nation's energies on the road of unity and dignity. We have wanted it to be a march that branches out like a blessed tree—one that does not bow unless to offer its bounty to all of us.

Let the tree's march be to the heights, in the name of the generations that dream of the nation and the Arab message, in their human dimensions and awareness, in the shadows of which flourish books, universities, schools, banners, cities, and villages, where human rights and human dignity are respected, and where dreams are nurtured, in the manner of our grandfathers, the leaders of the Great Arab Revolt, when they surprised the world with the great dream of a united Arab state extending from the source of wisdom in Yemen to the sunset of 'Uqbah Bin-Nafi', standing at the shores of the ocean of darkness

If today there is a dream to achieve Arab integration and to open new fields of sincere and good cooperation for and among all Arabs, let this be in accordance with God's saying: Help you one another in righteousness and piety but help you not one another in sin and rancor. [Koranic verse]

When the Gulf crisis occured and our nation suffered from its pains, we tried, before it took place, to find an Arab remedy to Arab wounds. We acted with all the power and capability we had to avert this national catastrophe. Our only objective was to please God and satisfy our conscience. But, events took a different turn than what we wanted. Despite the divisions and the rubble it left behind, we did not despair that a new dawn would break after a long dark night, returning the water to its course, pure and limpid in the great and boundless river of our nation.

Brothers, kin folks, and beloved ones, Amman is happy to have you meet in it. It lost sleep over the disagreement and the confrontation that took place between the brothers. Amman is also losing sleep over the starvation of the children of the nation who are besieged, by the illiteracy of some of its generations, by the dryness of some of the nation's trees, and by the squandering waste of many of its resources.

In this homeland, we have struggled in the face of gloomy and regrettable surprises. Free Arabs have struggled in many locations in this homeland so the image of unity can remain vivid in the minds and so our nation can remain, as God almighty has wished it, the best of peoples evolved for mankind [Koranic verse], rescuing those in distress, justly treating the wronged, feeding the hungry, protecting borders, and reassuring the frightened.

We have sought unity formulas. The Arab League formula was not the first of these unity ideas. The first of these ideas was an Arab government in Damascus at the time of Faysal Bin-Husayn. We welcomed all pan-Arab initiatives. We called for establishing a new Arab order. We stood against all foreign interference, in the hope that our efforts would succeed in healing our Arab wounds, from which we all suffer. We tried to prevent any estrangement of the brothers.

We still take the same position. If the world around us changes, let us change for the better, under the guidance of God almighty. This is natural. What does not change are the principles firmly embedded in the consciences of men who once built the Ma'rib Dam, men who spread the message in and outside the peninsula, and their grandsons who rebuilt the dam, upheld the edifice of unity, and championed the banner of amity among the sons of the one homeland, in the realization of the dream that the enemnies of the nation try to shatter and to send into oblivion.

The document of pledge and accord, drafted by a good group of Yemen's sons representing various trends and views, demonstrates real national unity and proven the success of the principle of pluralism within the framework of unity. It demonstrates a comprehensive vision for the subjects under discussions by the Yemeni people.

The document fixes dates for implementation. It presents plans for all of the Constitutional, political, security, and legislative fields. It defines general fundamentals and principles for building the new state, its central and decentralized establishments, and its laws and bylaws. The document demonstrates all of this in a comprehensive, accurate, and systematic way that will lead, God willing, to an advanced model of the state of law and institutions, to sound relations between authorities.

Dear kinsfolk: You are starting on a difficult road of comprehensive reform. This will require all your efforts and time, as well as the purest images of purity and fraternity the revolution can have. It will require the highest spirit of satisfaction and strength, so we will see no dark sea or gulf, so no blood will be shed at the hand of a brother who is unaware of the consequences of such action.

Therefore, we view your agreement as a resumption of the unity march and an enhancement of your democratic march. So you have the glory. Peace be upon you while you unleash the spirit of unity so it will waft across the entire Arab nation's land with its good scent, demonstrating your generosity—known since the dawn of our history—and drafting a Yemeni epic with Arab objectives and vision.

Brothers: We do not call our concern for your situation a mediation, because we do not consider the spirits of brothers to be separate. We, together, have been aware of our historic responsibilities. We have been engaged in the battle for freedom, democracy, and unity. We have been calling for the power of knowledge, awareness, and culture. We have been dreaming of a pan-Arab awakening that will light the streets of the nation's cities and liberate them from oppression, slavery, greed, fear, sedition, starvation, civil war, and alien cultures.

It is an honor for us that you came to us and chose us because of your confidence in us. We view this confidence with much gratitude. We are eager to serve your best and great objectives so we will continue to be Arab brothers, with the honor of serving their brothers and kinsfolk, at the start of a new road for dealing with all Arab issues within the Arab framework, and in a spirit of brotherhood and duty, hoping to carry out this duty fully with God's help.

Esteemed kinsfolk: We do not conceal our happiness over the fact that you are among us. Jordanians believe their guests are the grandsons of the Ghassanides who built this land, who carried the banners of conquest to the whole world, becoming history's masters, knights, and creators, and who carried the nation's concerns and stretched their struggle to all its causes and places. Let us advance together as one nation that supports the weak, feeds the poor, the orphans, and the prisoners, and reminds the world of great 'Umar Bin-al-Khattab's [second caliph] call: How can you enslave people who are born free?

Let us open the windows of freedom and the doors of the future for our new generations. Let us call for returning the right and restoring the Arab land's youth, strength, power, and memory. Let its awakening be based on science, construction, factories, and universities so no hungry, grieved, or sad man is left out.

Our hands are stretched out toward your hands. The Arab and Islamic sanctities in the holiest city, Jerusalem, are a stone's throw away. We urge that no side, except God, should have sovereignty over them. Let the faithful compete for fearing, worshiping, and respecting God. Palestine can be seen with its minarets and domes. We are defending the Palestinian people's rights in response to their's and the nation's demand and in accordance with international legitimacy.

Let us depart from the clouds of hesitance in this troubled, changing world and come up with a vision based on an intellectual foundation, on our tolerant values, on our great message. Let us follow the road of the righteous human intellect and awaken the pan- Arab sense of honor and vigorous will. Let the pledge and accord document on which you are unanimous be a landmark on an irrevocable comprehensive movement that reaches its unionist goal and sees Yemen emerge as an Arab peak that connects what has been cut in the march of our great history.

Blessed be your effort, o our kinsfolk in Yemen. Be happy with the unity you have achieved and with the road you have chosen. Let new joys prevail in Sanaa, Aden, al-Hudaydah, Hadramaut, and Ta'izz over unity and the spirit of brotherhood.

Let the nation awaken like Yemen, which has decided to be at the forefront. Let the joy be Yemeni, the satisfaction Arab, and the talk free and unionist. Let us read in the holy Koran: Seest thou not how God sets forth a parable? A goodly word like a goodly tree, whose root is firmly fixed, and its branches reach to the heavens. It brings forth its fruit at all times, by the leave of its Lord. So God sets forth parables for men, in order that they may receive admonition. [Koranic verse]

O dear kinsfolk, you will return to Yemen after agreeing to what is good. You will resume the Yemeni unionist march. I beseech God to grant you success and guide your steps on the right path and to help you shoulder your great responsibilities toward your homeland and your nation. Peace and God's mercy be upon you.

## Yemeni President Speaks

*JN2002164994 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1515 GMT 20 Feb 94*

[Remarks by Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih following the signing of the Yemeni document of pledge and accord on 20 February at the Royal Hashemite Court in Amman—live]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

My brother, His Majesty King Husayn Bin-Talal; brother struggler Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine; brother leaders of sisterly Jordan; their excellencies the heads of Arab and foreign diplomatic missions: Allow me in the name of the steadfast Yemeni people to lavishly thank my dear brother His Majesty King Husayn Bin-Talal [applause], who exerted great efforts, along with his government and people and all the good in the Arab homeland, led, too, by my brother struggler Yasir 'Arafat [applause] and many sisterly and friendly states, including the United States of America and the EEC and others in the world, who were concerned about Yemeni unity, which was proclaimed on 22 May 1990 in a peaceful and democratic way.

God be praised, we are here in sisterly Jordan to sign the document of pledge and accord drafted by the Political Forces Dialogue Committee of national parties and independent personalities. We—the leadership, the government, and the people, led by the three coalition parties, the General People's Congress, the Yemeni Socialist Party, and the Yemeni Reform Grouping and the rest of the political forces—hope that with this signing we will really move on to practical implementation, as stated in the document of pledge and accord.

Your majesty, we highly appreciate your hosting of this large gathering of social and political personalities, national figures, and historic leaders, led by brother Field Marshal 'Abdallah al-Sallal, brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, brother 'Abd-al-Rahman al-Baydani, and many other national figures and historic Yemeni leaders. Our father, great struggler 'Abd-al-Rahman Bin-Yahya al- Iryani, was supposed to be with us, but he was delayed in Damascus for some reason. We thank you in the name of these forces and in the name of your people and brothers in Yemen for your eagerness to maintain Yemeni unity.

God willing, we will not disappoint you or our people in Jordan and the entire good Arab nation, which is concerned about the Yemeni unity. We will measure up to the good opinion of all. We will break with all past pages, in all their forms, tragedies, rivalries, and problems. We make the promise of loyal men that with this document we will move to the stage of pledge, success, and implementation, God willing. From the bottom of my heart and in the name of these leaders, I once again thank you very much. God's peace and blessings be upon you. [applause]

### Yemeni Vice President Gives Address

*JN2002173594 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1519 GMT 20 Feb 94*

[Speech by 'Ali Salim al-Bid, vice chairman of the Yemeni Presidential Council and secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party, at the Royal Hashemite Court in Amman—live]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Praise be to God, who has guided us to this felicity, never could we have found guidance, had it not been for the guidance of God. [part of a Koranic verse] Blessed be this Ramadan. Blessed be this agreement, God willing, and blessed be your efforts.

To begin, I am pleased and honored to thank, once again, our dear brother, His Majesty King Husayn Bin-Talal, and Jordan's leadership and beloved people. We in Yemen are honored that Amman would host this gathering and this blessed agreement, God willing, to start the new phase in Yemeni history that we sign here and continue there, in Yemen.

Thank God, the agreement has been signed. Despite the wounds, the wound of the homeland is dearer and greater as far as we are concerned. Everything dear becomes worthless for the sake of Yemen. Our sincerity and seriousness will be tested tomorrow, when we return there. What is important in this agreement is our ability to implement it.

Never mind. This time, in Yemen we had another kind of conflict, a dialogue with words. We ruled out the dialogue of bullets and the dialogue of violence. We appealed to national unanimity. We signed this document. And today, we say, after signing, that this is the document of the homeland, the document of national unanimity, and not the document of any one party. With the blessings of God, we will all join hands and work to implement it, despite our reservations, or feelings—which are based on past experiences—that there will be difficulties in implementing it. However, let us be optimistic. We must be optimistic all the time.

From our people, we will find blessings. We will find support from all faithful people. This is the document of all faithful people. We hope we will succeed in taking it...[pauses] despite our pains. I now have a picture of martyr Majid, martyr Kamil, and martyr Hashim al-'Attas [Yemeni Socialist Party officials or relatives of party officials assassinated in Yemen], but Yemen is more precious than them all. We must place our country above all other considerations, above all personal considerations. We beseech God to grant us success. We will work seriously to move into implementation with all the faithful people.

What is new today is not the coalition formula. What is new, with this national consensus document, is the formula of the larger- scale coalition, the national consensus that helped us reach this document. We think that now after this crisis—and I stress the need to admit that it is a crisis in order to be able to address it, understand it well, and treat it, at the minimum level of the common denominators that we have reached.

It is all right. With the blessings of God we march. But as a result of this crisis, awareness must be promoted about the issue of unity in Yemen and Arab unity in the future. From now on, we must use our minds to produce knowledge. We must also allow feelings their role. We are only human. With the blessings of God, time has caught us. It is Ramadan and the fast-breaking time is approaching. May God accept your fasting and bless your fast-breaking meal.

### Signatories of Accord Document Listed

*JN2002174594 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1450 GMT 20 Feb 94*

[List of members of the Yemeni Political Forces Dialogue Committee, Yemeni political parties, and organizations designated as signatories of the Yemeni document of pledge and accord, read by Ahmad Jabir 'Afif, rapporteur of the Dialogue Committee, on 20 February at the Royal Hashemite Court in Amman—live]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The following are the names of the brother members of the Political Forces Dialogue Committee, listed alphabetically:

Ahmad Jabir 'Afif;
Isma'il Bin-Ahmad al-Wazir;
Anis Hasan Yahya 'Awad;
Ahmad 'Abd-al-Rahman Qarhash;
Ahmad Kalaz;
Jarallah Sa'd 'Umar Muhammad Mus'id 'Umar;
Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas;
Husayn Sharaf al-Kibsi;
Hammud Hashim 'Abdallah al-Dharihi;
Salim Hasan al-Ma'mari;
Sadiq 'Ali al-Dabab;
Salih Nasir Nasran;
Salah Bin-Ahmad Fulaytah;
'Abd-al-'Aziz 'Abd-al-Ghani;
'Abd-al-Wahhab Ahmad al-Anisi;
'Abd-al-Qadir Hasan Muhammad al-Qiyari;
'Abd-al-Quddus Yaha al-Midwahi;
'Abd-al-Karim 'Ali Yahya al-Iryani;
'Abdallah Ahmad Ghanim;
'Abdallah Salih al-Bar;
'Abdallah Muhsin al-Akwa';
'Abd-al-Wahid Hawwash;
'Umar 'Abdallah al-Lijawi;
Fadl Muhsin 'Abdallah;
Muhsin Muhammad Abu-Bakr Bin al-Farid;
Muhammad Ragh Sa'id;
Muhammad 'Abdallah al-Busayyil;
Muhammad 'Abd-al-Malik al-Mutawakkil;
Yahya Muhammad al-Shami.

Secretaries or heads of the political parties and organizations, listed alphabetically:

Ahmad Muhammad al-Shami, secretary general of the al-Haqq [Right] Party;
Hamud Muhammad Baydar, secretary general of the Yemeni Revolution Strugglers Organization;
Khalid Fadl Mansur, head of the Yemeni Unionist Grouping Party;
Sinan 'Abdallah Abu-Luhum, head of the National Forces Union;
'Abd-al-Rahman 'Ali Muhammad al-Jifidi, head of the League of the Sons of Yemen;
'Abd-al-Malik 'Abd-al-Jalil al-Makhlafi, secretary general of the Nasirite Popular Unionist Organization;
Dr. Qasim Sallam, secretary of the Yemen command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party;
Mujahid Yahya Abu-Shawarib, an independent.

Forgive me, brothers, I have inadvertently skipped the name of brother Ibrahim Bin-'Ali al-Wazir, secretary general of the Popular Forces Union.

### Yemeni Dialogue Committee Declaration Read

*JN2002181494 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1507 GMT 20 Feb 94*

[Declaration by the Yemeni Political Forces Dialogue Committee, read by Ahmad Jabir 'Afif, Dialogue Committee rapporteur, at the signing of the Yemeni document of pledge and accord on 20 February at the Royal Hashemite Court in Amman—live]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. We, the signers of the pledge and accord document, thank God for having helped our people, represented by political forces in and out of power, to choose the correct way to complete the accord document through democratic, serious, and responsible dialogue with a view to putting a definitive end to the crisis, reinforcing unity, democracy, and stabilizing the state of law and order and institutions as a practcial way to achieve devleopment and contribute to the civilized Arabic and Islamic agenda.

The signing of the pledge and accord document in Amman, the capital of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, will put a definitive end to all complications. It will expedite the end of the crisis. It will slice through the roots of the crisis and contribute much to the implementation of the contents of the document, so as to restore security and stability to the dear Yemeni homeland.

By signing the pledge and accord document in brotherly Jordan, we have added faith to our Yemeni document, confirming the nation's ability to take the initiative to resolve national problems and crises, restablish close Arab links, and revive hope in an era of division that has intensified to the point of enmity between brother and brother.

We, the Yemenis, have suffered from much political trouble in our contemporary history. The result is an unshakable faith in unity as the answer and the way to build our modern state on foundations of democracy, social justice, equality, and human rights. Unity is a historic step on the road to our comprehensive Arab and Islamic unity. Local, Arab, and world conditions that coincided with the establishment of our unity not only had a negative impact on our unionist, democratic project, but included all the remnants of the division era—remnants that were not taken into account during and after the Gulf war. As a result, our steps in our drive to build the new modern state have faltered. We should have been working hard to firm up the foundation of unity and to reinforce its democratic course, to open the door to the prosperity of the homeland and the well-being of the people.

Our people have proved to the world that they have enough strength and wisdom to ride out the crises that obstruct their march, subordinating impulse to reason and narrow interests to the call of conscience.

Our people have borne numerous difficulties. Much negativism has affected various aspects of their lives. Yet, the historic experience of Yemen proves that the will of the people has triumphed. Only democratic dialogue will be able to realize the unity and stability of the homeland and survive crises, no matter how delicate or complex the situation may be. Only through democratic and peaceful dialogue can we start on the correct road out of the crisis and toward serious action to attain all that our people and brothers and friends around the world want.

We emphasize that Yemen will remain united, now that we have worked out its present and future outlines and laid the foundations for its stability and advancement and affluence, drawing succor and success from God and resolve and steadfastness from our people.

In these awesome and historic moments, we declare our determination to abide by the accord document and the sincere commitment of our political parties and organizations to turn it into a practical program for our new march as one team. We will confront anyone who tries to block its implementation. We will abide by all guarantees and implement everything we agreed on, in accordance with the timetables specified in the document.

We would like to emphasize that the progress and well-being of peoples are contingent upon the strength of institutions and the principles and the clarity of vision and methods. We hereby promise our great Yemeni people to make the Dialogue Commitee, the political parties and organizations, along with all well-meaning Yemenis, a potent force to advance the implementation of the pledge and accord document.

On this occasion and in this favored month, we take the opportunity to extend our deep thanks to His Majesty King Husayn of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and to the Jordanian government and people for their distinguished efforts on behalf of Yemen's unity. We thank them for their sponsorship of this blessed, historic meeting. We thank those who have expressed their concern and exerted themselves so we, the Yemenis, might come safely through the crisis. Our thanks go to all those who have shared our accord signing ceremonies.

In conclusion, we thank our patient Yemeni people for their patience and endurance and for helping us lift ourselves from the crisis in the homeland and the people. We congratulate our Arab and Islamic nation on the occasion of the blessed month of Ramadan. We ask God that next year's Ramadan will see us all enjoying the fruits of security and stability. We thank God and seek his succor and help.

## Yemeni House Speaker Gives Address

*JN2002190794 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1524 GMT 20 Feb 94*

[Remarks by 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, speaker of the Yemeni House of Representatives and leader of the Yemeni Reform Grouping, following the signing of the Yemeni document of pledge and accord on 20 February at the Royal Hashemite Court in Amman—live]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. On my own behalf, and in my capacity as the leader of the third party in the government coalition, I am pleased to thank His Majesty King Husayn for hosting this blessed gathering and this agreement. God willing, this will end the dispute and the crisis. It will enable all officials to return to their posts, so we can start working to implement this document and our government and parties' programs, so we can serve our country and free it from the economic and political crisis it is experiencing.

We hope this gathering of ours will end the crisis and allow us to enter into a new age, the age of building, work, and cooperation, and loyalty to our dear homeland.

Finally, I once again thank his majesty for hosting this agreement and for his efforts. God's blessings be upon you.

## Jordan-Yemen Contacts Reported

*JN2002193194 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 20 Feb 94*

[Report by Kassab Samawi]

[Text] Before the signing of the document of pledge and accord by the Yemeni political dialogue parties, the Royal Hashemite Court witnessed a series of contacts between His Majesty King Husayn, the Yemeni leaders, and Jordan's guests who were invited to bless this agreement.

His Majesty King Husayn received 'Ali Salim al-Bid, vice chairman of the Yemeni Presidential Council. The meeting was attended by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan. The meeting, which lasted for some time, was also attended by Yasin Nu'man, head of the secretariat of the Yemeni Socialist Party's Central Committee.

His Majesty King Husayn also conferred at Raghadan Palace this afternoon with His Excellency 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, Yemeni president; Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine; 'Ali Salim al-Bid, vice chairman of the Yemeni Presidential Council; Shaykh 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, head of the Yemeni Reform Grouping; Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, Arab League's secretary General;

and Yusuf Bin-'Alawi, the Sultanate of Oman's minister of state for foreign affairs, before they all headed for the throne hall at Raghadan Palace.

During that meeting, maintaining Yemeni national unity and the ability of the Arab nation to overcome its difficulties and resolve its problems within the Arab framework were emphasized. The guests highly appreciated Jordan's role in closing Arab ranks and building solidarity on the basis of confidence, cooperation, and brotherhood.

Following the signing of the historic document, His Majesty King Husayn held a fast-breaking banquet at Basman Palace in honor of the Yemeni leaders and the guests.

The banquet was attended by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan and top government officials, as well as civil and military officials.

### King Attends Post-Ceremony Meeting

*JN2102080194 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 0500 GMT 21 Feb 94*

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn patronized a meeting at the al-Hashimiyah Palace yesterday evening attended by 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Yemeni Presidential Council; his deputy 'Ali Salim al-Bid; and leaders of the Yemeni political forces and parties.

In his name and on behalf of all Jordanians, his majesty welcomed the brother members of the Yemeni leadership and expressed his appreciation to this leadership and to all the Yemeni political forces for their historic achievement represented by the document of pledge and accord. This accord is a good beginning for fraternal Yemen and the entire nation, God willing, the king added.

During the meeting, the conferees reviewed ways to implement the document of pledge and accord which was signed yesterday evening by all Yemeni forces, organs, and institutions in order to enhance the unionist and democratic march of sisterly Yemen.

Attending the meeting on the Jordanian side were His Highness Crown Prince Hasan; Prime Minister Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali; His Excellency al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court; Marwan al-Qasim, his majesty's political adviser; Dr. Khalid al-Karaki, his majesty's adviser; and the Jordanian ambassador to Yemen.

Representing the Yemeni side at the meeting were 'Abd-al-'Aziz 'Abd-al-Ghani, Presidential Council member; Salim Salih, Presidential Council member; Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, the prime minister; Mujahid Abu-Shawarib, deputy prime minister; Sinan Abu- Luhum, head of the National Forces Union; 'Abd-al-Wahhab al-Anisi, secretary of the Yemeni Reform Grouping; Dr. Yasin Nu'man, head of the secretariat office of the Yemeni Socialist Party's Central Committee; 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani, minister of planning and development; and Jarallah 'Umar, minister of culture and tourism.

### Salih, al-Bid Hold 'Closed Session'

*JN2102123694 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 Feb 94*

[Text] In the presence of His Majesty King Husayn Bin-Talal of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, a meeting was held in Amman last night between brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council, and brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, vice chairman of the Presidential Council.

During the meeting, they reviewed ways to implement the accord document after it was signed yesterday afternoon by all forces, committees, and institutions to bolster Yemen's unionist and democratic march.

King Husayn once again welcomed the brother members of the Yemeni leadership, in his name and on behalf of the Jordanian people. He appreciated their and the political forces' historic achievement of the accord document, which will be a good beginning for Yemen and the Arab nation, God willing.

For their part, the brother chairman and vice chairman of the Presidential Council thanked his majesty the king and the Jordanian people for hosting this meeting, noting his majesty's efforts to bring views closer and heal the rift in the Yemeni ranks to safeguard unity and democracy.

Attending the meeting were brother 'Abd-al-'Aziz 'Abd-al-Ghani and Salim Salih Muhammad, members of the Presidential Council; Engineer Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, prime minister; Mujahid Abu-Shawarib and 'Abd-al-Wahhab al-Anisi, deputy prime ministers; Dr. Yasin Sa'id Nu'man, member of the Political Bureau and head of the secretariat office of the Yemeni Socialist Party's Central Committee; Dr. 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani, minister of planning and development; Jarallah 'Umar, minister of culture; and Sinan Abu-Luhum, member of the dialogue committee.

For the Jordanian side, the meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan Bin-Talal; Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali, prime minister; al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir, chief of the Royal Court; Marwan al-Qasim, political adviser to his majesty the king; Dr. Khalid al-Karaki, adviser to his majesty the king; and the Jordanian ambassador in Sanaa.

The Yemeni News Agency, SABA', has learned that after this meeting a closed session was held between brother President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and his deputy 'Ali Salim al-Bid.

### Al-Bid Denies Reports on King's Plans

*JN2102095594 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 21 Feb 94 p 18*

[Text] Amman, AL-DUSTUR—Yemeni Foreign Minister Muhammad Salim Basindwah has denied press reports that His Majesty King Husayn will accompany Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and his deputy 'Ali Salim al-Bid on his private plane to Sanaa.

Basindwah said His Majesty King Husayn has played a heroic role that will be recorded in the annals of contemporary history by bringing together the Yemeni brothers on the land of heroism, gallantry, and dignity. His Majesty King Husayn has also managed to heal the rift, clear the air, and usher in a new era in the history of Yemen permeated by love, trust, and adherence to unity, whatever the obstacles.

In a statement to AL-DUSTUR press team, Basindwah added that all efforts will be geared now toward taking practical steps to implement the agreement and let bygones be bygones.

### Salih Makes Pre-Departure Statement

*JN2102163994 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 21 Feb 94*

[Excerpts] His Excellency President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Yemeni Presidential Council, left Amman for home this afternoon after taking part in the signing of the Yemeni accord document in Amman yesterday under the patronage of His Majesty King Husayn. [passage omitted]

In a statement to the JORDANIAN NEWS AGENCY, President Salih thanked the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, represented by His Majesty King Husayn, for hosting the signing of the accord document. He said: On the sidelines of the occasion, we held consultations on issues of interest to the Republic of Yemen and the Hashmemite Kingdom of Jordan, and we discussed several issues pertaining to our Arab and Islamic nation—issues on which both countries maintain identical positions and views.

Although we have overcome the challenges of the crisis in our Yemeni homeland, we, as Arabs, still face more general and more comprehensive challenges, which we should confront seriously and honestly. This will not take place unless we patch up our differences and consider higher national interests above other, narrower regional interests. These other interests are distracting our countries' attention from promoting collective pan-Arab action and formulating the situation in accordance with a responsible desire to restore and enhance Arab solidarity. We must do this in order to meet the minimum aspirations of our peoples at this time, a time in which we see a new trend of regional relations that conflicts with the collective action for which we yearn.

### Further on Salih's Statement

*JN2102174694 Amman Radio Jordan in English 1700 GMT 21 Feb 94*

[Text] Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih has left Amman after he took part in signing the Yemeni reconciliation and reform accord. His majesty the king and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan led a farewell ceremony to President Salih at the airport. The prime minister, the speakers of Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament, and his majesty the king's advisers also took part in the farewell ceremony.

In a departure statement, President Salih paid tribute to efforts exerted by his majesty in ending the rift in Yemen. He expressed his thanks to those who worked and planned for the signing ceremony. President Salih said he discussed during his stay bilateral issues of concern and other pan-Arab and Muslim issues.

The Yemeni president said more challenges are facing Arabs that need firmness and faithfulness. He said this would be achieved by reconciliation among Arabs and putting pan-Arab interests before regional ones. Mr. Salih said that he is looking for bilateral Arab meetings as a first step toward gatherings that would be of greater benefit for all Arabs.

### Salih, al-Bid Depart Amman

*JN2102150294 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1400 GMT 21 Feb 94*

[Text] His Excellency President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Yemeni Presidential Council, left Amman for home this afternoon after taking part in the signing of the Yemeni accord document in Amman yesterday under the patronage of His Majesty King Husayn. His Majesty King Husayn and His Highness Crown Prince Hasan led those who saw off his excellency the Yemeni president. Also at hand to see him off were Prime Minister Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali, the Senate president, the House of Representatives speaker, his majesty the king's advisers, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, several senior civilian and military officials, the Jordanian ambassador in Sanaa, and the Yemeni ambassador in Amman.

His excellency the Yemeni president was accorded an official sendoff. Leaving with him were 'Abd-al-'Aziz 'Abd-al-Ghani, member of the Yemeni Presidential Council; Shaykh 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, speaker of the House of Representatives and head of the Yemeni Reform Grouping; and the members of the delegation accompanying him.

'Ali Salim al-Bid, vice chairman of the Yemeni Presidential Council, also left Amman at noon today after taking part in the signing of the Yemeni accord document in Amman yesterday under the patronage of His Majesty King Husayn. He was seen off at the airport by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan. Also at hand to see him off were Senate President 'Ahmad al-Lawzi; House of

Representatives Speaker Tahir al-Masri; King Husayn's adviser Dr. Khalid al-Karaki, who is also the head of the escort mission accompanying the guest; the deputy prime minister; the minister of higher education; His Highness Prince Hasan's special adviser; several ministers; the directors of the General Intelligence Department, the Public Security Department, and the Civil Defense Department; the chief of staff of the Royal Ground Forces; the mayor of Amman; the governor of Amman; and several senior civilian and military officials.

His excellency the guest reviewed the guard of honor and was accorded an official sendoff at Queen Alia Airport. Leaving with him was Dr. Yasin Sa'id Nu'man, head of the secretariat of the office of the Yemeni Socialist Party's Central Committee.

## 'Text' of Yemeni Document

*JN1902110394 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 19 Feb 94 p 23*

[First part of "text" of "Pledge and Accord Document" drafted by the Yemeni Political Forces Dialogue Committee on 18 January—numbering and lettering of paragraphs as published]

[Text]

**Preamble:**

Praise be to God Who says: "And hold fast, all together, by the rope Allah stretches out for you, and be not divided among yourselves." [Koranic verse]

From 1 Jumadi al-Akhir to 7 Sha'ban 1414 Hegira, corresponding to the period from 22 November 1993 to 18 January 1994, the Political Forces Dialogue Committee held continuous meetings in both Sanaa and Aden in a determined and sincere effort to contain the homeland's political crisis and to find genuine solutions to advance the march of the blessed Yemeni unity realized on 22 May 1990. This effort is intended to strengthen unity and democracy and lay down firm and stable foundations for the state of order, law, and institutions.

The Political Forces Dialogue Committee's effort began after the political crisis and its repercussions went beyond all acceptable boundaries. That effort was in response to an urgent need for cooperation among all Yemenis to put a speedy and decisive end to that crisis and its negative and harmful consequences, which seriously threatened the homeland and the people together, and their unity and cohesion. That crisis threatened the people's national gains, which were realized after many years of suffering and struggle, during which caravans of martyrs offered their blood.

As a result of that crisis, Yemen inevitably seemed to the entire world to be standing on the edge of an abyss. Basically, that crisis was the outcome of a lack of confidence, accumulating mistakes, serious transgressions and confusion in tasks and authorities, and the failure to abide by the Constitution and established laws and regulations. All this has exacerbated the security and economic situation and gravely harmed the people's way of life.

Painstaking and sincere efforts have been exerted to define the steps and final rules for the return of stability and security to the cherished Yemeni homeland. In order to avoid the recurrence of what has happened, to safeguard unity, expand popular participation in the making and implementation of decisions, establish a true democracy that goes from the village to the top of the state's hierarchy, and lay down strong bricks in the building of a strong Yemeni state that safeguards rather than threatens, and maintains resources rather than squanders them, the dialogue committee drafted this document. This document constitutes the sound beginning for the building of the new Yemen, the Yemen of unity and freedom. The document shows Yemeni wisdom and places reason and logic above all considerations.

Having signed and announced this document to the Yemeni people, all political parties declare their commitment to it and to continuing all efforts to implement it in the way it describes.

This national document covers the important issues addressed by the political forces' dialogue. These are as follows:

**I. Those Charged in Cases of Security Violations:**

1. Firm measures should be adopted to capture fleeing suspects in incidents of assassinations, attempted assassinations, highway robbery, and other security incidents. Legal and public trials shall be held immediately for those who have been captured in connection with acts of sabotage. Fairness and speedy implementation of penalties shall be ensured in these trials.

2. The dialogue committee stresses the contents of the government's statement concerning measures for combating domestic and foreign terrorism and for deporting non-Yemenis proven to have carried out acts that contravene Yemen's policy and laws or to have propagated or instigated such acts. All those who are convicted after legal and public trials in which fairness and the implementation of penalties are ensured should be deported by competent authorities. Elements charged with terrorism should not be allowed to be brought into or employed in the country.

3. The Political Forces Dialogue Committee declares that it stands firmly against any negligence or procrastination in the adoption of firm legal measures by competent authorities against those involved in acts of terrorism and sabotage.

4. Whoever shelters or hides a defendant concerning whom a notice has been issued by the official agencies or

an escapee from prison shall be considered a law breaker, and legal measures shall be taken against him.

5. A plan shall be worked out to arrest the fugitives and demand, via Interpol or through diplomatic channels, that non- Yemeni defendants or Yemenis who fled abroad are extradited or tried in absentia.

6. Interrogations with defendants implicated in cases of terrorism and sabotage shall be completed after conducting investigations and compiling information within the framework of integrated investigations and the linking of cases. Such cases shall be investigated by specialized, competent, and impartial investigators, provided that the cases are referred to the prosecutor's office as they take place.

7. The Political Forces Dialogue Committee stresses the speedy issuance of the arms-carrying list and the organizing of compliance with it. It stresses studying the current law with a view to making it firmer in order to limit the carrying of arms, their spread, and trading in them.

8. The existence of camps or headquarters for preparing of and training in acts of violence shall be investigated and verified, and appropriate measures shall be taken against them.

9. The plan and measures of implementation shall not exceed three months.

10. All measures cited in the previous articles shall be taken in accordance with the enacted laws and the bases of justice.

**Implementation:**

1. The Ministry of Interior shall work out a plan to arrest fugitives, or those who flee prison, or those who support them, through military support from the Ministry of Defense if necessary, under the interior minister's command. The plan shall be submitted to the Council of Ministers within one week for endorsement.

2. The ministers of interior and justice shall submit a list of investigators and selected personnel studying these cases to the prime minister for endorsement.

3. Trials will be conducted at the places where the crimes occurred. The public prosecutor's office will coordinate its pleadings with a view to linking cases in the event that the defendants in a case are also accomplices in cases that occurred in other places. The public prosecutor's office and its representatives in the governorates will bring the cases to justice as they take place.

4. The ministers of interior and justice will submit a twice- monthly report to the Council of Ministers on the progress of cases and on standing firmly against any lagging or delay by any party.

**II. The Security and Military Aspect:**

1. All checkpoints in and outside cities, whether belonging to the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Defense, or joint checkpoints, shall be removed.

2. The Ministry of Interior shall define the places where the security interest requires the erection of checkpoints, provided that it shall cooperate with the Ministry of Defense in order to define joint military and security checkpoints. For this purpose, a committee will be set up by a decision made by the Council of Ministers within two weeks. This committee shall submit a proposal on the checkpoints selected for erection. In light of this proposal, the Council of Ministers will make a decision defining the following:

A. The checkpoints under the supervision of the Ministry of Interior.

B. The checkpoints under the supervision of the Ministry of Defense.

C. The checkpoints under joint supervision.

Implementation will begin immediately after this decision has been made.

3. A general reconciliation shall be made among the tribes with a view to sparing Yemeni blood. According to this reconciliation, revenge shall be terminated, and everyone who takes revenge shall be outlawed. The states' competent circles will take firm legal measures against those who take revenge, and will tackle the revenge cases that occurred before the issuance of the declaration. The government will pay any required expenses. This reconciliation shall be made, provided that the following basic issues are taken into account:

A. The state will declare a general reconciliation by calling for a general national conference in which all political and social forces and ulema shall participate. All participants will sign this declaration.

B. The conference will set up a committee to determine and tackle the revenge cases that occurred before the declaration.

C. A reconciliation will be declared within one month, and will be honored as of the day it is declared. A law reinforcing this declaration shall be issued. Anyone who takes revenge will be regarded as violating the law, and punishment, which shall be determined by the law, will be taken against him.

4. To preserve the prestige the Armed Forces enjoy in the eyes of the people and to safeguard their great militant asset, which is deeply etched in the conscience of the people and their history, units in the outskirts of some areas in the governorates of Ta'izz, Lahij, Abyan, Shabwah, al-Bayda', and Ma'rib shall be redployed in areas to be agreed upon by an Armed Forces technical committee in a manner that will secure the state's strategic defense

needs and that protects vital targets. The Ministry of Defense will take the appropriate implementation measures.

A decision on this shall be made witin one week and implementation shall start immediately thereafter.

5. No military patrols shall be deployed in the streets, or along the roads. The police shall be in charge of this in accordance with the security requirements.

6. An intelligence body shall be established in accordance wth a law that will define its structure, tasks, and powers to safeguard national sovereignty. A committee from the government and the [dialogue] committee shall be formed to prepare the law and submit it to the Council of Ministers during a period not to exceed one month from this date.

7. To seek methods to end the unofficial armed presence, and ban distribution of weapons to citizens under any pretext. Any such action will be viewed as a crime.

8. To reorganize the Interior Ministry in a way that the various security units, including the Central Security Organ, will be merged and over which the ministry will have control. All security expenditures will be channeled through the Interior Ministry. The Council of Ministers shall form a committee whose task will be to submit a proposal in this respect within a maximum period of two weeks.

9. Cities will be vacated by the Armed Forces, which will be redeployed within a maximum period of two months in accordance with a central redeployment plan prior to merging, redressing their situation, and reorganizing these forces. The plan shall be submitted by the Defense Ministry, approved by the Council of Ministers, and ratified by the Presidential Council. The merger operation shall not exceed a four-month period after the implementation of the vacating and redeployment operation, which is within the framework of building up a modern national army that embodies national unity, and is in keeping with the democratic course, free of all provincial, family, tribal, and sectarian influence, incorporating all military units without disrcimination or exception. Implementation will start after the accord document is adopted and signed by the national dialogue parties.

10. Commitment not to move any military units or human or material reinforcements, and to suspend the implementation of training programs until the situation stabilizes and a decision on the resumption of these programs is made by the Council of Ministers and ratified by the Presidential Council. The Defense Ministry shall be informed about this decision and the military committee shall follow up on its implementation.

11. The Military Police's role shall be confined to that of keeping the security and promoting the discipline of the military units. The Military Police shall be prohibitied from carrying out any activities or patrols that will be viewed as falling within the jurisdiction of the Public Security.

12. Any manifestation, measure, or behavior that will imply favoritism or preferential treatment among the Armed Forces personnel shall be banned.

13. The Armed Forces officers and soldiers shall be banned from intervening in the affairs of citizens and local authorities, or from carrying out any activity in their workplaces that would conflict with the functions of the judicial, and executive authorities.

14. Recruiting, arming, and mobilizing military units, militias, the Border Guard, the Popular Guard and similar units shall be halted and all such actions shall be voided.

15. The Defense and Interior ministries shall supply the Armed Forces and the security forces with all their needs through their competent bodies.

16. All past illegal promotions which have taken place since the beginning of 1993 shall be cancelled.

### Implementation

A committee from the Council of Ministers and some military and political figures shall be formed to supervise the implementation of this part of the accord. This committee will prepare an agenda and timetable for its actions to be approved by the Council of Ministers.

### III. Codification of the Relationship and Definition of Prerogatives.

a. To embody the Constitution, laws, and by-laws in practice and to spell out the tasks and prerogatives of the Presidential Council, its chairman, and vice chairman in carrying out their Constitutional duties, the tasks and prerogatives of the Presidential Council's office shall be reviewed accordingly.

b. Banning disbursement of public funds outside the purposes defined in the general budget, with its two parts: current expenditures and development expenditures approved by the House of Representatives and outlined in the general budget law, with the need to abide by the prerogatives that specify disbursement. The disbursement prerogatives for senior state officials shall be defined.

c. It is impermissible to oppose or delay the disbursement of any budget allocations, or to have any party which, according to the budget law, is not competent, dispose of these allocations.

d. Noninterference in the prerogatives of the civil service bodies and the military and avoiding the issuance of regulations that conflict with the laws, cause confusion, result in preferential treatment among the citizens, and make those entitled to being appointed or promoted lose this opportunity.

e. To issue a law defining the salaries and allocations of the Presidential Council chairman, the vice chairman, the prime minister, his deputies, the ministers, and their assistants in accordance with the Constituion.

**Implementation**

—All parties shall immediately suspend disbursement and stop interfering in the affairs of the institutions.

—The Council of Ministers shall form a committee to prepare laws and by-laws within a two month period.

**Second: [as published] The Bases for Building a Modern State and Its Institutions**

The major task is to build the state, correcting the faults that have surfaced over the past period. Experience of the past years since the proclamation of the establishment of the Republic of Yemen on 22 May 1990 has shown that the way the country was run obstructed the merger of the two previous systems and the building of the unity state.

From this premise, the dialogue of the political forces has sought to leave the crisis atmosphere behind and to proceed within a serious democratic atmosphere that will achieve stability and balanced economic and social development and that will enhance national unity. That is why, in addition to the general bases and principles, this document focuses on defining the bodies of the central and local authorities, their prerogatives and their tasks in order to prevent interference and the intermingling of duties which causes confusion and leads to crises.

**1. General Bases and Principles**

The following bases and principles shall constitute the foundation for building the state and its institutions to establish a state where order and law prevails. These bases also secure the establishment of a modern Yemeni state on the following:

1. Islam as faith and law.

2. All powers emanate from the people. They exercise these powers in a direct manner, or through a referendum and general elections. They also exercise these powers in an indirect manner through the legislative, executive, and judicial institutions and through elected local councils.

3. The Republic of Yemen is an Islamic and Arab country and Arabic is its official language.

4. Yemeni unity and republican system.

5. National unity is the basis for safeguarding and enhancing its pillars.

6. Democracy, the peaceful transfer of power, and political and party pluralism.

7. Administrative and financial decentralization are part of the bases of the system of government.

8. Protection of public liberties.

9. Respect for human rights.

10. Freedom of trade union and professional activities, as well as of intellectual and cultural creativity.

11. Encouragement of scientific research in all walks of life.

**II. The State Institutions:**

It was one of the major targets of all participants in the dialogue committee and of all proposals that have been submitted to the committee to build the state, develop its institutions and central and noncentral departments, and to complete the issuance of its laws, regulations, and statutes. This is based on their desire to rectify the course of our new unity and democratic experiment and to build the state of law, order, and institutions, a state that follows decentralized administrative and financial methods to run the affairs of the united Yemeni state. These methods should be able to absorb the state's national requirements that are based on local government and its law-governed specializations in the fields of development, services, administration, and finance.

**III. The Central Authority Institutions:**

**1. The House of Representatives:**

It is the legislative body of the Republic of Yemen. It is elected by the people through secret, free, and direct balloting. The Constitution defines its authorities, tasks, membership conditions, and nomination and voting methods.

**2. The Consultative Council:**

It consists of an equal number of members representing local government units and is elected by the provincial councils. The Constitution specifies the number of Consultative Council members from each administrative unit, membership conditions, and nomination and voting methods. The Constitution defines the specializations and tasks of the Consultative Council as follows:

1. To give advice on fundamental laws, especially the ones concerning local government, as referred to it by the Presidential Council, to which they are referred by the House of Representatives. Afterward, such laws are issued by the Presidency.

2. Together with the House of Representatives, it elects members of the Presidential Council.

3. To give advice on the state draft budgets and the economic and social development plans referred to it by the government, before they are approved by the House of Representatives. The council then sends its observations to the government, which in turn refers the draft

budget to the House of Representatives after studying the council's observations and proposals.

4. It elects members of the Republic's Higher Court. The republic's judges present twice as many the number of nominees, concerning whom a presidential decree is issued. [sentence as published]

5. It elects the members of the Media Council and the board of the Civil Service Public Office. Nominations are made by the government, and approved by a presidential decree.

6. It proposes for the government draft laws on local administration.

7. It studies local government issues referred to it by the government or by any of the councils of administrative units.

8. It gives advice on treaties and border issues referred to it by the government before it refers them to the council of representatives.

9. To study any issue referred by the government to the council.

**3. The Presidency:**

The presidency represents the state's sovereign authority. It consists of a five-member Presidential Council, jointly elected by the House of Representatives and the Consultative Council. The Presidential Council elects a chairman and a vice chairman among its members.

—Membership in the Presidential Council shall not exceed two electoral terms.

—The chairman, vice chairman, and members should not pursue any party work while serving as members of the Presidential Council. (This does not apply to the current Presidential Council members for the present term).

The Constitution defines the Council's powers and functions as follows:

1. Representing the Republic domestically and abroad.

2. Inviting the voters for general elections at the established date.

3. Dissolving the House of Representatives after holding consultations with the Council of Ministers in accordance with the article stipulated in the current Constitution.

4. Calling for a general referendum.

5. Designating who will form a government, and issuing a republican decree naming the government members based on the choice of the designated prime minister.

6. Participating with the government in discussing its policy statement before submitting it to the House of Representatives to win the vote of confidence.

7. Receiving periodic reports from the prime minister on the progress of implementing the state's general policy in all fields.

8. Holding consultations with the prime minister on naming members of the Defense Council who are nominated by the Council of Ministers in accordance with the law.

9. Issuing laws passed by the House of Representatives.

10. Having the right to reconsider any law passed by the House of Representatives.

11. Signing decisions on appointing, promoting, and discharging senior Armed Forces and security commanders, beginning with the rank of colonel and above, after approval by the Council of Ministers.

12. Ratifying the Council of Ministers' decisions on creating military ranks or bestowing the medals stipulated by the law.

13. Permitting the carriage of medals bestowed by other states.

14. Issuing laws when the House of Representatives is not in session based on a proposal by the Council of Ministers under extraordinary conditions that cannot be delayed and that do not conflict with the Constitution, provided that they should be submitted to the House at the first meeting held after these laws have been issued.

15. Ratifying the treaties and agreements approved by the House of Representatives.

16. Forming diplomatic missions and appointing and recalling the ambassadors after the Council of Minister's approval.

17. Accrediting the representatives of foreign states and bodies.

18. Granting the right of political asylum.

19. Declaring a state of emergency and general mobilization in accordance with the law.

**The Chairman's Tasks and Powers:**

The chairman shall carry out the following tasks and powers based on the Presidential Council's tasks and powers:

—To head the Presidential Council's meetings.
—To represent the republic abroad, sign the credentials of ambassadors, and receive ambassadors of other countries.
—To sign laws.
—To sign the Presidential Council's decisions.

—To request reports from the prime minister on issues pertaining to implementing the government's tasks in order to submit them to the Presidential Council.

—To sign laws and republican decrees along with the prime minister.

—To head the National Defense Council in the event of war.

### The Vice Chairman's Tasks and Powers

The vice chairman shall assume the following tasks and powers:

—To help the chairman to fulfill his tasks, and in particular:

—He shall assume the chairman's tasks when the latter is outside the country or sick to the extent that he cannot fulfill his duties.

—Ask for reports from the prime minister to present to the Presidential Council in issues related to the local government.

—To act as vice president of the National Defense Council in the event of war.

### Tasks of the Presidential Council Members

—To participate in the council's activity.

—The other members of the Presidential Council shall assist the chairman and the vice chairman in accordance with bylaws that regulate the council's activities.

### 4. The Government

The Council of Ministers is the government of the Republic of Yemen. It is the state's supreme executive and administrative agency. All of the state's executive administrations, agencies, and institutions, without any exception, are affiliated with it.

By adopting administrative and financial decentralization, the Government is responsible for foreign affairs, the Armed Forces, the public security, the currency, and the sovereign resources. It is also responsible for formulating the financial, monetary, economic, social, and cultural policies and for proposing draft laws and supervising their implementation.

The Government is fully and collectively answerable to the House of Representatives.

### 5. The Judiciary

The judiciary comprises the Republic's Supreme Court and the courts specified by law, as well as the public prosecution. The judiciary is fully independent. Members of the Supreme Court, who must be practicing judges and lawyers qualified in Islamic shari'ah and law, are elected by the Consultative Council for life. The term of the Supreme Court's member expires with either death or when the member reaches retirement, or when he violates the profession's ethics. In this case, he shall be dismissed and will never be allowed to work in the judicial system. The Constitution and law shall specify the tasks and powers, and methods of electing and dismissing members of the judiciary.

### IV. Local Government

The desired local government system is based on administrative and financial decentralization under the umbrella of the single Yemeni state. It is also based on the principle of large-scale popular participation in government and a democratic course enhancing national unity. Citizens of the republic in the various administrative divisions shall exercise their constitutional rights and fulfill their duties in a way that will enable them to engage in a positive competition to build the edifice of the single Yemeni state through the economic and social prosperity of its administrative units and the establishment of justice, security, stability, and wellbeing.

### V. The Administrative Division

The local government is based on a new administrative division of the Republic of Yemen that overcomes the existing administrative structures and units, and which will help to fully integrate the country in such a way that will terminate all manifestations of fragmentation and emphasize national unity and the new Yemen.

This division must be based on scientific principles that take into account population and geographic factors and the entire economic, social, and services conditions of the population, and must provide the basic pillar for balanced development. On that basis, the republic shall be divided into four to seven administrative units called makhalif [provinces]. Sanaa, the political capital, and Aden, the economic and trade capital, shall constitute independent administrative units (municipalities). They both shall be considered separate legal entities and shall enjoy financial and administrative independence. They will have their own elected councils in accordance with the principles and regulations specified by law. The status of Aden as a free zone must be taken into consideration.

### VI. Powers of the Local Government

The local government is based on the principle of direct, free, and fair elections of its agencies. Councils of government must be elected and enjoy full administrative and financial powers that will enable them to run the administrative, development, and services affairs of that unit on the basis of positive competition within the framework of unity. The task of building the country can be distributed by moving some of the affairs of the central administration to the local government agencies. These can be summed up as follows:

### Financial, Administrative, Economic, and Social Affairs

### 1. Administrative Affairs

The local government in the administrative units shall run the affairs of the citizens and employees. The local government is fully responsible for the issues of labor, education, health, municipalities, social and economic affairs, and cultural activities within the administrative unit in accordance with the general policy of the state. The local government is also in charge of road building, city planning, and other works that do not fall within the framework of the state's sovereign tasks. The local government is also in charge of organizing the relationship with the central departments with regard to these activities on the following bases:

a. General planning and supervision are the tasks of the central administration.

b. Planning at the level of the administrative unit, participation in the general planning, and full responsibility for implementing these plans are the task of the local government.

**2. Financial Affairs**

Decentralization in the financial field is considered the basis of the local government. This should produce high efficiency in mobilizing financial revenues and higher efficiency in utilization.

For further clarification, a line should be drawn between the resources that fall within the powers of the local government and the ones that fall within the sovereign resources:

**The Sovereign Resources**

- —Customs revenues.
- —Income taxes on the profits of companies working on the level of the republic.
- —The state shares from the annual profits of the general enterprises working on the level of the republic.
- —Returns on oil, gas, minerals, and fisheries.
- —Any other sovereign resources defined by the law.

**a. Water Resources**

The water resources count as resources of the sovereign, and, therefore, their development and rationing use are of vital importance. They should be developed and used in accordance with rules and controls set out by law defining the relevant responsibilities of the central and local governments.

**b. Local Resources**

- —Local fees decreed by a decision issued by the administrative unit in accordance with a law that defines the powers and bases on which decisions are made and systems worked out by the local councils.
- —Taxes on income, free enterprise, and commercial activity in the context of the local unit.
- —Returns on economic activity in the context of the administrative unit.
- —Alms.
- —Tax and fees on khat.
- —Tax on real estate
- —Traffic, transportation, and land fees.
- —Environment protection tax.
- —Support offered by the central budget.

These definitions are not exclusive; they are given by way of explanation only. Sovereignty and local resources shall be defined by law.

Regarding spending, the spending listed in the annual budget of the local unit includes the social services and economic activity of the general units falling under the umbrella of the local unit and other related activities. Local spending does not cover items centrally funded, like key highways and other transport systems linking units or strategic projects, such as oil and gas and key minerals.

- —The Central Bank will set up branches in the administrative units to handle part of its major functions.

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## Part 2 of Accord Document

*JN2002124994 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 20 Feb 94 p 14*

[Second and last part of "Pledge and Accord Document" drafted by the Yemeni Political Forces Dialogue Committee on 18 January—numbering and lettering of paragraphs as published]

[Text]

**3. Economic Affairs:**

As part of the policy of economic freedom, administrative units will compete with each other to establish their own economic bases with their known components: Production, distribution, job opportunities, investment opportunities, and improvement of social services and care for citizens in each administrative unit. Competition will prompt local government agencies to do their best, and they will be directly responsible for their actions. Performance will be measured in accordance with these agencies' handling of their tasks and responsibilities. In case of failure, the local government authorities will not shirk responsibility by blaming the central authority, which would happen if there was a confusion of responsibilities. The government will devote its efforts to planning within the framework of the general and main objectives. The government will also monitor implementation, a task which will be facilitated by two factors:

1. The general objectives that it will define will be based on the needs of each administrative unit.

2. Monitoring the implementation will start from within each administrative unit through the voters. This will ensure the achievement of the set objectives.

**4. Police and Security:**

Security will be among the direct responsibilities of the local government in various administrative units. Each administrative unit will be responsible for running the affairs of its police and security force within the national general security plan. The police and security forces will carry out their responsibilities in accordance with the Interior Ministry's regulations and rules. These forces will receive orders from the local authorities. Their armament will be unified and their rights and obligations will be set in accordance with the law. Their size will depend on the need of each administrative unit. The local authority will be directly responsible for security within the boundaries of each administrative unit. The general security plan supervised by the Interior Ministry will coordinate security activity among the administrative units and will monitor security activity in all administrative units in accordance with the law.

**5. Education:**

A. A unified national educational plan will be worked out. Local government councils in administrative units will see that this is implemented on the basis of positive interaction among them to offer the best proposals regarding both the educational institution and curricula.

B. Technical schools and training centers are under the direct responsibility of the local government. This responsibility will also cover the training of teachers and meeting schools needs for teachers.

C. The Koran teaching schools and establishing new ones fall under the responsibility of the local government.

D. With regard to higher education, the local government will abide by the higher education plan and policy and the development requirements in various fields in the republic.

**6. Health and Other Services:**

A. With the exception of combating epidemics nationwide and following a national medical policy according to unified standards, the local government will be responsible for health, doctors, supervision of hospitals and health units and devising a system for controlling them, granting licenses, controlling and encouraging private clinics, laboratories, and therapy centers, and appointing specialized cadres.

B. The same standards will apply to the relationship between the central departments and the local government agencies in the fields of services and other social activities and those working in these fields.

**7. The Civil Service System, Public Service, and Work Rules:**

A. All civil servants and other employees will be subjected to unified laws.

B. These laws will be implemented within the framework of administrative units. Regulations on incentives will be left for the local government authorities to decide in accordance with their needs and circumstances.

C. The administrative units and their branches will keep special files of the workers' records. They will exercise full authorities regarding employment, promotions, separations, pensions, leaves, and domestic and foreign training decisions, and other issues governed by the law.

D. The judiciary has its own bylaws.

### Administrative Structures in Units and Government Organizations.

1. The local government is run by councils elected by the people with the power to make administrative decisions, supervise, judge, and monitor the performance of the local administration tools in administrative units belonging to it. These will be governed by a law.

2. An executive office will be formed in each province. It will be elected by the local administration council in the province from its members or from outside. It will be headed by a person elected by the local council. A presidential decree must be issued on its formation. The law will define its organizational structure in accordance with the nature of the tasks assigned to it.

3. The local government's council decisions are binding within the administrative unit. It shall not make decisions that exceed the limits of its administrative area.

4. The Government's decisions are binding on this council provided they do not contravene the legal powers of the local government. The law explains the supervision's methods, limits, and powers.

5. The laws enacted by the House of Representatives and issued by the head of State are binding on all local government councils in the republic.

6. All Yemeni citizens will enjoy equal and full rights in all administrative units, including the right to elect and run for memberships in the local administration units. The citizen's birth and residency will be taken as a basis for exercising this right within the law.

7. Each province in the local administrative units will be composed of a number of subunits. The powers of their elected bodies will be organized in harmony with the provisions of the local government. They will be called, district, subdistrict, or area in terms of their size. These bodies will be assigned executive tasks and powers in the province plans and programs and each subunit will be given special municipal tasks.

8. The councils of the administrative subunits will elect the heads and members of its executive offices. The appointment of the office heads will be announced in a prime minister's decision.

### Rebuilding and Reorganizing the Armed Forces

Rebuilding and reorganizing the Armed Forces is one of the primary issues. The Armed Forces are directly affiliated with the Government. No military or paramilitary force belonging to any other side shall be formed. The general plan to reform, merge, reconstruct, and reorganize the Armed Forces will be prepared in accordance with the following principles:

1. The Yemeni Armed Forces are defense forces responsible for protecting the Yemeni Republic's borders, waters, and air space, and to defend national sovereignty.

2. The Defense Ministry's budget must be controlled to enable it to play its role in accordance with the requirements of defending the Yemeni Republic.

3. The size of the Armed Forces will be confined to three arms: land, sea, and air. No force will be allowed to exist and no units will be allowed to be formed in contravention of that and outside the three aforementioned arms.

4. The required formations of the Armed Forces, which will be suitable to the operations theater, will be defined in accordance with what the competent authorities see fit within the conditions and in accordance with requirements of defending the sovereignty and independence of the Yemeni Republic.

5. The material and human resources and the proposed formations will be completed after they have been defined by reconstituting and reorganizing the current formations.

6. After determining their size and formations and completing their material and human resources, the Armed Forces will be positioned in accordance with the following priorities.

A. Deploying units at border areas.

B. Protecting sites of economic activities for operating companies.

C. Reorganizing and redeploying the rest of the units in the inland regions according to needs and to function as a reserve. This is in line with the principle of reducing the current size of the Armed Forces, based on the following:

—Retirement according to the terms of the service and the bonus and salary law.
—Retiring military officials employed by civilian government institutions.
—Opening the door for early voluntary retirement.

7. Abiding by the Political Parties and Organizations Law by disallowing party activity in the Armed Forces and the security agencies.

8. Dividing the republic into military zones.

9. Reformulating the Military Service Law to stress the following:

—Joining the Armed Forces is a national right and duty for all the sons of Yemen. This principle must be embodied through the composition of the Armed Forces, without any discrimination or preferences.
—Senior Armed Forces and security officials shall spend five years maximum in senior posts.
—The Armed Forces should set an example of national unity. Its staff are to be selected based on qualifications and experience, away from party and political congresses and family, rural, regional, ethnic, and religious affiliations. The Armed Forces shall be reorganized on these bases until there is no military unit subject to the above influences.

**2 - 4 The Official Media**

A national body shall be formed comprising qualified national media figures to supervise it and to do the planning for the official media agencies. This body shall replace the ministry to ensure that it will serve the community, away from discrimination against any political side and to enable it to perform its media and educational role and message.

**2 - 5 Education**

Stressing the unification of curricula in all schools, colleges, and universities and removing the distortions in these curricula. Also, making intensive efforts to modernize academic curricula to catch up with modern developments and working to build up a Yemeni generation that has a unified national vision and creed.

**2 - 6 The Higher National Security Council**

1. A higher national security council shall be established in Yemen. This council will be responsible for doing research, conducting studies, and making recommendations for the presidency of the state and the government. The purpose is to protect national sovereignty and enhance our country's relations with Arab and other countries in light of new world developments. The council will also carefully study ways to spare our country disasters, crises, and upheavals witnessed in most Third World nations.

2. The council shall have duties and bylaws to govern its activity and shall be established by a law.

3. The council shall comprise specialists in political, military, security and socioeconomic affairs.

**2 - 7 The Control and Accountability Agency**

The role of the Central Agency for Control and Accountability should be activated as a control agency independent of the executive branch and that is directly linked with the legislative branch. This agency should be committed to its public reports. The government will have its own tool for advance and future control of local and central executive agencies.

The control agencies should have strong, qualified, and neutral elements that can withstand all pressures and any attempts that obstructs their duties or try to use them for political purposes or favoritism.

**2 - 8 Civil Service Reform**

Civil service reforms must be subject to a thorough study of the current situation, including regulations, practical measures, and measuring performance. Since the human is the foundation of administration, reform should be geared toward human resources in the first place. Also, regulations and practical measures should be reformulated in line with the following:

A. Simplicity and clarity of regulations to facilitate their understanding and implementation.

B. A precise and sound definition of duties, responsibilities, and powers.

C. Laying constant foundations to delegate powers on all central and local levels.

D. Preparing administrative bylaws and work regulations precisely.

E. Preparing a working guide for citizens' formalities in all fields.

In addition to the importance of preparing bylaws, the significance of the human element in administration should require the following:

1. Enhancing the continuous training process of scientific and technical leaderships and the administrative cadres.

2. Providing a suitable environment for work and finding new job opportunities.

3. Stressing the disinterestedness of the administration and considering civil service as both a right and duty. Appointments to all administrative posts will be subject to the terms of the civil service and the valid bylaws, laws, and regulations. Posts of deputy ministers and above will be considered political posts.

4. Forming specialized administration courts to resolve issues of administrative violations within a period not exceeding six months from the signing of the document.

5. Forming a general civil service organization instead of a ministry. This will be affiliated with the cabinet.

**Economy and Financial Organization**

The failure to complete the structure of the Yemeni state has directly affected economic and financial conditions. One of the most obvious effects of the absence of the unity of the state's political establishment is that the country has been left without a clear financial and economic policy to organize this vital sector. Clear economic policy has been missing since the first day of our experiment in unity, despite the fact that our declared policy was economic freedom. However, this policy was not been consummated to allow the economy to be built within its framework. Trouble and concern grew and anarchy displaced organization. With the absence of political unity and decisive measures, general expenditure became a source of increasing anarchy that was reflected in the national currency and led to the deterioration in the rial's purchasing power. It led to a disruption in productive economic activities such as agriculture and industry. Prices soared and the real value of people's income dropped because of the deterioration of the national currency. All this was in addition to the rampant deficit in the general budget. Therefore, the economic reform process, within the policy of economic freedom and through a number of urgent measures to stop the deterioration, becomes very important.

Based on all this and in order to come up with an integrated policy that will be combined and completed within a process of reforming the entire system of government, the following steps should be taken:

1. Abiding by a general state budget that specifies expenditures and revenues and seeks to end the growing deficit resulting from the huge gap between expenditures and revenues. This can be achieved by emphasizing increasing revenues and curtailing and organizing expenditures, within the limits of what is needed;

2. Following balanced development plans and annual investment programs to guarantee balanced economic and social development;

3. Adjusting the monetary system to stop the deterioration of the national currency and activating the role of the Central Bank and organizing its functions in a way that does not run counter to the functions of the commercial banks; also, taking the necessary and practical measures to protect the currency, including the issuing of the new currency that was agreed upon, regulating money exchangers' activities, and fighting currency counterfeiting;

4. Fighting corruption, bribes, and administrative negligence and uncovering smugglers of goods, commodities, weapons, and drugs and punishing them in accordance with the valid laws;

5. Implementing the decisions pertaining to the establishment of a free zone in Aden; executive measures must begin immediately and all measures must be completed by the end of this year;

6. Organizing and supervising the activity of public institutions and public companies, especially activity that affects the foreign currency that may be used to finance activities that exhaust the economy;

7. Making a quick decision about which of the raw materials needed for basic national industries, and the resources needed in agriculture, fisheries, and other production activities, are to be treated the same way as foodstuffs financed by the Central Bank, in order to stop the increase in the price of these materials and the deterioration of this vital activity of the national economy.

**4. Constitutional Amendment:**

As the Constitution is a document of great importance in our people's present and future life, the following should be observed:

A. Abiding by the current Constitution until it is amended.

B. In order to Implement the content of the accord document and to make the necessary Constitutional amendments, serious efforts should be exerted to carry out these Constitutional amendments within three to five months. A national committee consisting of ulema, parties to the Political Forces Dialogue, some specialists from Aden and Sanaa universities, and some social figures should be formed to draft Constitutional amendments, taking into account the fact that draft Constitutional amendments should not conflict with general principles and fundamentals, as well as the missions and powers of bodies and ways of their formation in the accord document of the Political Forces Dialogue. The committee will take full time to do its work within the fixed period.

C. Reconsidering the overall parliamentary and local production system, particularly election by list in light of a scientific study of Yemeni and other human experiences. The election law will be reconsidered in light of the results of that study.

**5. Implementation Mechanism:**

To ensure the implementation of this national document, which is aimed at correcting the course of unity and building a modern Yemeni state, a state of order and law, every national official and popular energy should be mobilized. Therefore, the following mechanism should be adopted:

A. The government shall have full power and be free from interference in its work in order to allow it to carry out its duties.

B. The government will draw up timetables to carry out specific duties within one month.

C. Anything in the document requiring a Constitutional amendment should be observed as soon as the Constitutional amendments are approved. Some duties should also be prepared along with the preparation of the draft Constitutional amendments. An issue that does not require a Constitutional amendment will be carried out immediately.

D. Measures by the government to implement the document and the policy statement should be taken publicly.

E. A monthly news conference should be held to define progress in implementing the duties; a government spokesman will be appointed.

**6. The Follow-Up Mechanism**

1. The Political Forces Dialogue Committee shall follow up and supervise the implementation of the decisions enshrined in the accord document signed by the parties to the Political Forces Dialogue to build a modern Yemeni state.

2. Executive decisions will be made granting the committee the following:

A. The right to obtain information from any source, particularly to the extent that it will help the committee carry out its duties.

B. The right to have access to the media to propagate statements detailing progress in the implementation of the document, the obstacles hindering it, and those who may by obstructing it, whether individuals or bodies.

C. The government shall make available to the committee its official and administrative capabilities to help it fulfill its functions.

**7. The Security Arrangements and Circumstances Needed for Signing and Implementing the Agreement.**

A committee is to be formed from among the parties to the dialogue to work out security conditions for signing the document and guarantees for initiating implementation in coordination with the president and his deputy. The date shall be fixed in accordance with the agreed arrangements.

Conclusion: The completion of such work must be the result of a powerful political will to engage in vigorous work and honor promises and obligations. The aim is to safeguard unity and protect the republic and our democratic choice and confirm our people's will to achieve their objectives—security, stability, and the affluence of the individual.

## Al-Qadhdhafi Congratulates King on Yemeni Accord

*JN2102212194 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 2100 GMT 21 Feb 94*

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received a telephone call from His Excellency Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, this evening. During the call, the Libyan leader congratulated His Majesty King Husayn on the signing of the Yemeni accord in Amman. He also expressed his appreciation for his majesty's great role and his efforts to secure the signing of the document, beseeching Almighty God to preserve his majesty as an asset and hope for the nation.

## Diplomat's Assassin Said in Amman for Interrogation

*JN2202103194 Amman AKHIR AKHBAR in Arabic 21-22 Feb 94 p 1*

[Text] Informed sources said late last night that the assassin of Jordanian diplomat in Beirut Na'ib 'Umran al-Ma'ayitah has been handed over to the Jordanian security organs, which began interrogating him in Amman.

Eyewitnesses told AKHIR KHABAR that a private plane landed at Amman International Airport yesterday afternoon. Total secrecy surrounded the arrival of the plane and its passengers.

Reached by telephone, Interior Minister Salamah Hammad denied this report and said: I have heard this from you. I have absolutely no knowledge of that. He ruled out this development and said: Thus far, this news report is totally untrue. We are very busy receiving the brotherly Yemeni delegations in order to sign the unity treaty.

## 'Sources': Over 50 Detained in Explosions Case

*JN2202110994 Amman AKHBAR AL-USBU' in Arabic 21-22 Feb 94 p 2*

[Text] AKHIR KHABAR has learned that the security organs yesterday arrested an Islamist in connection with the recent explosions. Some sources said he belongs to the Islamic Action Front [IAF], but IAF sources denied that.

According to informed sources, the new arrest raises the number of detainees to over 50. The competent authorities, however, are expected to release about 13 other detainees who were arrested for interrogation but were found not guilty.

The prime minister had earlier told the House deputies that the investigation will take its course and that all who had nothing to do with the recent explosions will be released.

## Yemen's al-Bid Arrives in Damascus, Makes Statement

*JN1902134794 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1215 GMT 19 Feb 94*

[Text] 'Ali Salim al-Bid, vice chairman of the Presidential Council in the Republic of Yemen arrived in Damascus at noon today.

Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam led those who received al-Bid at the Damascus International Airport. Khaddam and al-Bid then headed in an official motorcade for the guest palace, al-Bid's residence.

Al-Bid made a statement to the correspondent of the Syrian Arab News Agency in which he said:

"We are glad, while visiting the sisterly Syrian Arab Republic, to meet with our brothers in this fraternal country, led by President Hafiz al-Asad, to discuss fraternal bilateral relations and ways of bolstering and developing them, in addition to the Arab and international situation.

"It is an opportunity to acquaint our Syrian brothers with developments in Yemen and the results of national dialogue and efforts contained in the document of pledge and accord that will be signed in the Jordanian capital, Amman, on the 10th of the blessed Ramadan.

"We believe that it is an opportunity to discuss with our brothers in the beloved Syria the means of healing the rift, restoring Arab cohesion, and organizing the single Arab house in a manner that will contribute to the restoration of Arab solidarity and the activation of the Arab nation's role among the nations. This will come in the wake of new international circumstances and changes, and in a manner that allows the Arab nation to confront the dangers and challenges facing it.

"On this occasion, I am pleased to express my satisfaction with the development of fraternal relations between our country and the sisterly Syrian Arab Republic, and to emphasize the importance of developing these relations in a manner that serves the joint interests of the two fraternal Yemeni and Syrian peoples, and the issues that concern our Arab and Islamic nations, and strengthens the role and status of the two countries in the Arab and international arenas."

Al-Bid is accompanied by Dr. Yasin Sa'id Nu'man, a Yemeni Socialist Party Political Bureau member and head of the secretariat of the party's Central Committee.

## Al-Asad, al-Bid Discuss Yemeni Document

*JN1902192394 Damascus Syria Arab Television Network in Arabic 1830 GMT 19 Feb 94*

[Excerpt] President Hafiz al-Asad received at 1430 today 'Ali Salim al-Bid, vice chairman of the Yemeni Presidential Council; Dr. Yasin Sa'id Nu'man, head of the secretariat of the Yemeni Socialist Party's Central Committee; and Muhammad 'Abduh Shutfah, the Yemeni ambassador in Damascus.

The meeting was attended by Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam and Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar'.

Al-Bid expressed his sincere condolences to his excellency the president on the loss of Staff Major Basil al-Asad.

Talks dealt with the Arab situation, developments in the Yemeni arena, and the Yemeni accord document that will be signed in Amman tomorrow. [passage omitted]

## Afghanistan

### Four-Day Cease-Fire Accord Signed in Kabul

*BK2102144594 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 21 Feb 94*

[Text] In Afghanistan, the forces loyal to President Borhanoddin Rabbani and Premier Golboddin Hekmatyar have agreed to another four-day cease-fire in Kabul. The cease-fire will come into effect from tomorrow morning. A member of the Islahi Shura [Reformation Council] told AIP [AFGHAN ISLAMIC PRESS] in Jalalabad that during the cease-fire, roads leading to the Afghan capital will be opened for traffic to enable the vehicles carrying foodstuffs and medicines to reach Kabul. The cease-fire has been brokered by the six-member delegation of Rabata al-Alam al-Islami [World Muslim League] and Islahi Shura of Afghanistan. An APP report says both President Rabbani and Premier Hekmatyar have agreed to the cease-fire.

### AFP Notes Cabinet Commission's Peace Plans

*BK2002144294 Hong Kong AFP in English 1048 GMT 20 Feb 94*

[By Terence White]

[Text] Kabul, Feb 20 (AFP)—A special commission of Afghan cabinet members announced proposals Sunday to establish a permanent peace among the warring Afghan factions in Kabul, including a new assembly to pick a new president.

The proposals centre on the establishment of a special committee which will have two tasks: securing a compromise agreement between the factions, and organising a Loya Jirga, or grand assembly, to elect a new president and cabinet.

A four-day ceasefire, which ended Friday, followed 45 days of nonstop fighting in the capital, but this ceasefire has yet to be extended to formalise the uneasy and unofficial truce currently enjoyed in Kabul.

The proposal for a Loya Jirga is a throwback to December 1992 when President Borhanoddin Rabbani was elected in a controversial assembly called the Shoora Ahl-i-Hal va Aqd, the legality of which was challenged by some rival factions.

Whether called a Loyal Jirga or Shoora Ahl-i-Hal va Aqd, the idea is for a group to vote for the nation's leader.

The cabinet commission proposes that the Loya Jirga be convened within the next five months, that is, by the end of Rabbani's current tenure as president.

Delegates elected to the Loya Jirga are to be respected personalities, including Muslim theologians, and political and social experts. Whether former communists will be eligible to participate was not explained.

Prime Minister Golboddin Hekmatyar is allied with the ex- communist forces of Uzbek General Abdol Rashid Dostam, who tried unsuccessfully to unseat Rabbani in the coup of January 1994.

Hekmatyar's successful military challenge to Rabbani's 1992 election as president won him the prime ministerial nomination in March 1993.

Rabbani's declaration of a holy war against Dostam may prove to be a sticking point for acceptance of the cabinet peace package if it means Dostam will be excluded. The four-day Kabul ceasefire was similarly flawed by the exclusion of Dostam's forces, giving all factions a convenient excuse to blame daily violations on the Uzbeks.

Saturday night's two- to three-hour exchange of heavy artillery and light weapons' fire was an indication of the latent tension between the warring factions, regardless of their willingness to extend the expired ceasefire.

Up to 20 heavy calibre shells crashed into the former diplomatic enclave of Wazir Akbar Khan shortly after midday Sunday, underscoring the fragile nature of security in the Afghan capital.

### Details Outlined

*LD2002205994 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 20 Feb 94*

[Text] A meeting of the cabinet was chaired today by Esteemed Deputy Prime Minister Mawlawi Mohammad Arsalan Rahmani. At the meeting, the current situations in the country were discussed.

The press department of the Prime Ministry told the Bakhtar Information Agency that [word indistinct] Planning Minister Hojjat-ol-Eslam Seyyed Mohamad 'Ali Javid read out a draft plan that has been prepared by an appointed commission concerning the solution of the probiems of war, the maintenance of a lasting peace, and the formation of a new political order. The meeting approved the draft for a final solution, and it was decided that—in understanding with other Muslim and rightful parties—this draft was to be even more enriched and complete.

The following is a brief outline of this plan: [passage indistinct] The cabinet, as the highest executive body of the country, gives the right to itself to be in front on the path of strengthening peace in Afghanistan and to coordinate all Islamic plans and efforts that are in process in this regard. [passage indistinct] as follows:

1. The solution of internecine problems and armed clashes between the jihadi formations of Afghanistan and the opposition side [as heard] through talks and negotiations in consideration of the observation of the Jalalabad agreements.

2. The formation of a constituent council numbering 60 to 100 members—including Afghan scholars, jihadi formations, political, social, and Muslim personalities—to prepare for a great national council, the Loya Jerga. This council [passage indistinct] so that personalities understanding our religious and national values—as far as possible—can come together representing various strata and circles in the country to determine the political destiny of this country, which has been soaked in their blood.

4. [number as received]. It is necessary that the representatives of Afghanistan's administrative units be appointed in proportion to their population.

5. In order to obtain [word indistinct], it is necessary that the representatives of the United Nations and of the ICO [Islamic Conference Organization] observe the work and the formation of the Council.

6. In order to avoid an administrative vacuum, it deems necessary that the Islamic State of Afghanistan continue its work until the end of its term in keeping with the decisions of Shura-e Ahl-e Hal wa Aqd [Solution and Settlement Council] and that of the Jalalabad agreements.

7. It is necessary to choose a number of [words indistinct] from members of the Islamic Loya Jerga as members of the country's parliament [words indistinct].

8. The aforementioned Jerga is to appoint the country's future leadership and parliament.

9. This plan is to be implemented within the next five months.

10. This Loya Jerga is similar to the council that has been recorded in the Feqh books [Islamic law] as Shura-e Hal wa Aqd. The cabinet and the relevant commission ask all scholars and [words indistinct] of the country to even further enrich this draft through their written and verbal views and proposals.

At the end of the meeting, Javid and the cabinet members took part in a news conference and explained various parts of the draft to home and foreign journalists.

### Hekmatyar Faction Not To Lift Kabul Blockade

*LD2202111394 Tripoli JANA in English 0806 GMT 22 Feb 94*

[Text] An-Nawar [Feb] 22, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The faction of Golboddin Hekmatyar which presently surrounds the Afghanistan capital Kabul has announced that it will not lift its blockade which denies the city any relief supplies. The faction was able to intensify its blockade within the pattern of stuggle for power between what were once called mojahedin and later became political rivals whose conflict is systematically destroying the country.

### Rival Factions Resort to 'Heavy Fighting'

*BK2002092794 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 20 Feb 94*

[Text] In Afghanistan, rival warring factions resorted to heavy fighting last night after a five-day uneasy calm. The fighting, which was the heaviest during the last fortnight, continued throughout the night and gradually died down in the morning. The two sides used heavy artillery and rocket fire on each other's positions in Bala Hesar, (Tapamaranjan), (Tivihilloc), Takatu, and (Omryan). The presidential palace in Kabul and Prime Minister Golboddin Hekymatyar's headquarters in Chahar Asiab also came under heavy fire.

Meanwhile, efforts are continuing to search new avenues for peace in Kabul.

Iranian officials have begun distribution of relief supplies to Afghan refugees in tents in Jalalabad. The supplies were flown to Peshawar and were taken to Jalalabad by road. The head of Iran's aid operation for Afghanistan said his country also plans to give supplies to Kabul once the city's airport is reopened to cargo planes.

### Dostam Militia 'Offensive' Defeated in Konduz

*LD2002184794 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 20 Feb 94*

[Text] An offensive by the notorious Dostam militia, which was mounted this morning in western Konduz Province, was defeated.

A military correspondent of the Bakhtar Information Agency reports that the infamous Dostam militia, in cooperation with communist generals, early this morning mounted an offensive in Konduz Province's western areas that was completely foiled as a result of the courage shown by the Islamic army and mojahedin of the Konduz Province. Some [words indistinct] of the criminal militia of Dostam.

The report adds that all mojahedin of Knoduz Province, in united ranks, are continuing jihad against the notorious militia. Mop-up operations in Konduz Province's districts are continuing by the mojahedin and the faithful local people.

## India

### President Notes Various Topics in Parliament Speech

*BK2102095694 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in Hindi 0532 GMT 21 Feb 94*

[Address by President Shankar Dayal Sharma at the Central Hall of Parliament in New Delhi—live]

[Text] Honorable members: Welcome to this session of parliament. As I address you in this new year, I sense that the country is today in a different frame of mind from the one last year. We faced many difficulties at the beginning of 1993, but our people displayed tremendous resilience as the year progressed, and 1993 certainly ended on a note of optimism. There was steady progress on all fronts, as evident from the improved law and order situation; record food grain production; unprecedented levels of procurement; very high levels of food grain stocks; containment of the rate of inflation to the single digits; comfortable foreign exchange reserves; considerable reduction in the trade gap; increase in exports; improved performance in certain essential areas of the infrastructure sector; and increased flow of foreign investment, both direct and portfolio. All of this has symbolized and justified this emerging optimism. Clearly, we have regained our internal energy and our global confidence. We have reason and justification to be encouraged by our all-around performance.

We, however, still must work a great deal to achieve the targets set for our socioeconomic progress. On the basis of this hope, the government is moving toward its objectives in the year 1994. There has been a distinct improvement in the law and order situation. The rebellious situation in the northeast is under control. The successes achieved in Punjab last year have been further strengthened. The elections in the country's five states and the national capital area were conducted peacefully. The government is determined to maintain the success of these improvements and is trying to initiate this process in the remaining significant sectors.

Around this time last year, the Ayodhya issue had cast its long shadow on the national scene. There was a great deal of concern among the people about the possible fallout of the demolition and the riots that followed. Thanks to the inherent wisdom and sagacity of the Indian people, the grim predictions that were being made have been proven wrong. The atmosphere has improved considerably, and we can hope for a lasting solution to the dispute. Proceedings are continuing in the Supreme Court on the reference made to this case under the Constitution. The government will take appropriate measures in light of the Supreme Court's opinion. The Ayodhya issue is the most convincing demonstration in recent times of the danger inherent in mixing communalism and politics. It is of utmost importance to correct this aberration and keep both religion and politics in their legitimate domains. Our secular state demands nothing less. The need is to consider the matter fully and take effective steps to settle it. The government would welcome proposals in this connection.

In Jammu and Kashmir, we are pursuing a policy of taking firm action against terrorism. This year, the police and security forces have scored considerable achievements in their antiterrorism operations. Steps have been taken to improve their competence. All efforts are being taken to ensure that the maximum restraint is exercised while using force. The local administration and the security forces in cooperation with the people commendably solved the grave crisis at the Hazratbal shrine. The settlement of this crisis reflects the government's attitude of restraint. Whenever it is felt that excessive force has been used during any particular incident, an immediate enquiry is ordered and action taken. The operation against terrorists will continue with a view to restoring law and order. At the same time, appropriate measures are being taken to tone up the administration; development and economic activities have been intensified to generate employment opportunities; and the mechanism to redress grievances has been strengthened. We are deeply concerned about the difficulties of the common people. We are also pursuing steps to bring about effective involvement by the people in dealing with matters that concern us. Jammu and Kashmir is an inalienable part of India and we will foil all attempts from across the border or from any other side to create instability.

In the northeast, the setting up of the interim Bodoland Autonomous Council in pursuit of the Bodo accord marks a positive step toward meeting the aspirations of the tribal population. The Assam Government took prompt action in Kokharajar and Bongaigaon Districts when there was an outbreak of violence against nontribals. In Manipur, the government took action under Article 356 of the Constitution in the wake of violence between Nagas and Kukis and the general disruption of law and order. This demonstrates the government's ability to deal sternly with disruptive elements.

The National Human Rights Commission has been set up with the former chief justice of India as its chairman. Commission members include a former judge of the Supreme Court and a former chief justice of the high court. The constitution of the commission reflects that we are firmly committed to taking immediate and clear action on the human rights issue. The commission has started its work in earnest.

In order to strengthen the executive's accountability to parliament, 17 department related standing committees of parliament were established in April 1993 to make detailed examinations of legislation, demands for grants, annual reports of ministries, and national basic long-term policies presented to the house. This will greatly facilitate parliament's work.

The country had its share of natural calamities. The scale of damage in the Maharashtra earthquake stands out among these. In every instance, the government responded with commendable alertness and provided prompt relief. The governments of several other countries, the World Bank, and other institutions promptly offered assistance, and we are grateful to all of them. A massive reconstruction program in the earthquake affected areas of Maharashtra is being taken up with an outlay of 10 billion rupees. Nongovernmental organizations are being involved with the reconstruction program as appropriate.

The economic reforms introduced in 1991 gained momentum last year, and have been consistently pursued. Still, much more needs to be done. The government is aware that reform is an irreversible and continuous process that must be implemented with determination and foresight, keeping the responses and circumstances in the country constantly in view. As a result of this approach, the progress in implementation has been steady, firm, and based on general consensus. We will hasten this process with care. Based on the performance and prospects of the public and private sectors, the areas reserved for the public sector have been trimmed. More industries have been delicensed. The new export-import policy announced on 31 March 1993 is an attempt to streamline procedures and liberalize exports in agriculture and services, where the country has a competitive advantage. The 1993-94 budget provided fiscal incentives for investment in priority areas. In drawing up the reform package, the government stressed reform in the financial sector. Financial institutions need to be restructured and strengthened to enable them to take on the new responsibilities imposed by expanded activity in the private sector. The unification of the exchange rate and the floating of the rupee in March 1993 were important policy changes. The fact that the rupee has remained steady since it was floated is testimony to the government's good judgment in the matter.

The basic economic indicators show that, although the year began in a difficult environment, the performance of the economy during 1993-94 has been satisfactory. In 1992-93, the gross domestic product is estimated to have grown by 4 percent. In 1993-94, the government expects the growth rate to remain at about the same level. The inflation rate dropped below 6 percent for a short period during this year, and the highest level was 8.4 percent.

Global investors have shown growing confidence in the Indian market. Direct foreign exchange investment approved since the introduction of the new industrial policy was approximately 130 billion rupees in terms of equity by the end of 1993. Total investment in these projects is estimated to be on the order of 650 billion rupees. The significant point about these investments is that the bulk have been proposed in sectors such as power, oil refining, food processing, the metallurgical industry, electrical equipment, chemicals, electronics, and other priority areas. Only 7 percent of the proposed investments will be in products that can be categorized as consumer goods. The investment inflow will be spread over a period of three to four years, which is the gestation period for the megaprojects.

The government continues to place a great deal of emphasis on export promotion. The resulting changes in trade policy, coupled with the floating of the exchange rate and the general liberalization of the economy, have yielded results. Exports have shown good growth, recording an increase of around 20 percent in dollar terms between April and December 1993, compared to a little over 3 percent in the corresponding period of 1992.

The government attaches the highest priority to the development of agriculture. The timely provision of adequate inputs and the creation of a structure that provides for the timely announcement of prices—which in turn promote higher production to meet the domestic needs of the country fully and provide for exports—are the major objectives of the government. In keeping with the overall strategy the plan outlay for the Department of Agriculture and Cooperatives has been raised by 26.6 percent from 10.5 billion rupees in 1992-93 to 13.3 billion rupees in 1993-94. The production of foodgrains during the 1992-93 period was 180 million tons, which was more than 1991-92 production by 7.1 percent. Food grain production for the fall of 1993-94 is expected to be 99 million tons, and the prospects for the spring are excellent.

The government is encouraging the diversification of the agriculture sector by emphasizing horticulture, aquaculture, oil seeds, pulses, and other commodities that have export potential. This will be done without detriment to the interests of our own consumers. Steps are being taken to revitalize the rural cooperative credit system as well as marketing, processing, and other services essential to farmers, especially in remote areas. Extension services will be broadbased, keeping the new priorities in agriculture in view, including greater involvement by the voluntary organizations. As a measure to reduce the poverty level, our agricultural strategy will aim at increasing agricultural production in the rain-fed areas through an integrated strategy of soil and water conservation, the increased use of agricultural inputs such as organics and biofertilizers, and improved technology.

During the eighth plan period, 11 billion rupees have been allocated for the restructured National Watershed Development Project for rain-fed areas. About 3 million hectares of land will be treated for sustainable production of food, fodder, fuel, and fiber through dry-land farming technology. The household production system will diversify as a consequence, and ultimately the income level and employment opportunities of the watershed community will improve. The project will also enhance the availability of ground water, which will consequently prevent drought in the project area. A total of 250,000 micro watersheds have been identified for development in rain-fed areas, and work has started on them.

The capacity to manufacture nitrogenous fertilizers has been increased, and more is being planned. Because the availability of raw materials required for further production is limited within the country, efforts are being made to set up joint ventures abroad, particularly in the Gulf and West Asia. The government will continue to take all measures required to bring about a balanced application of soil nutrients so that production levels are sustained.

As part of the agricultural policy, states have been advised to remove all intra- and interstate restrictions on the movement of food grains. The government's commitment to safeguard the interests of the consumer remains as strong as ever. The central issue price for the revamped public distribution system areas remains as much as 500 rupees less per metric tonne than prices in the general public distribution system, thus increasing affordability for the poor. At the inception of the scheme in 1992, it was expected that 10,580 new fair price shops would be opened in the revamped public distribution system areas to strengthen the delivery system. Compared to this, 11,681 new fair price shops have been opened in this area, exceeding the target. New warehousing space of 181,296 tonnes has been also created or rented since the inception of the scheme. A midterm review of the revamped public distribution system has revealed that nearly 1.5 million metric tonnes of additional food grains have been provided to rural areas compared to what used to be provided before the inception of the scheme, thus adding a new rural dimension to the public distribution system. With record food stocks of 22 million tonnes in the central pool grids on 1 January 1994—resulting from stepped up procurement efforts—the government is comfortably placed to augment coverage further in this area should it become necessary.

The government is determined that no section of the population—regardless of whether it is women, children, minorities, scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, or backward classes—should remain outside the mainstream of development. In all areas of development of the poor, resource allocations were enhanced during 1993-94 compared to the previous year. The revised outlay for the Ministry of Rural Development increased by 56 percent, while the planned outlay for the Welfare Ministry was raised from 8.8 billion rupees to 9.8 billion.

The Jawahar Rozgar Yojana employment scheme has been strengthened in the 120 most backward districts. Subsidies under the Integrated Rural Development Program were enhanced by 1,000 rupees per household. The program of providing improved tool kits for rural artisans, started in 1992-93, was extended to 100 more districts in 1993-94, thus covering all 162 districts in the country and benefiting 230,000 rural artisans.

Comprehensive programs for the welfare and development of weavers have been evolved. They include housing, work sheds, handloom development centers, quality dying units, training, improved practices, and provision of working capital. These programs—with a total outlay of 10.372 billion rupees—started during the year. The scheme for handloom development centers and quality dying units, launched toward the end of 1993, seeks to merge and expand existing units and establish new ones. Against the 1993 target of 120 centers and 20 units, 213 centers and 94 units have been approved; 25 centers and 25 units have already started operating.

The government has formulated three new and innovative schemes to benefit the poor, particularly rural women, and urban youth.

The employment assurance scheme, introduced in 1,752 of the most backward and remote blocks of the country, where 170 million of India's poor live, will provide rural laborers with assured wage employment for 100 days during the lean agricultural season. The scheme will continue to make employment opportunities available to village people at a fuller level.

The women's empowerment scheme will strengthen the position of rural women by enabling them to gain and exercise control over their earnings and household resources. Already, more than 400,000 women have opened accounts under this scheme in rural post offices. This scheme, along with the National Women's Fund, will greatly enhance self-employment opportunities for rural women.

An employment scheme has been launched to provide sustained employment in micro enterprises to educated urban youths. About 195,000 applications have been received so far from youth in different states. So far, 41,275 applications have been processed and recommended to banks; about 2,000 have been approved. During the current year, the scheme will cover 40,000 beneficiaries. From 1994-95 onward, it is intended to cover 220,000 beneficiaries per year, thus covering a total of 700,000 beneficiaries over the remainder of the eighth plan period. The Reserve Bank of India has been instructed to support the program fully. The scheme provides for a 22.5 percent reservation for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes and 27 percent for other backward classes, with preference given to women.

A significant role has been envisaged in all of these programs for nongovernmental organizations to generate awareness and promote effective implementation. To monitor progress in the implementation of the programs for weaker sections, and to provide the direction and thrust required, the prime minister has set up a special cell in the prime minister's office. This special cell will receive feedback from the responsible departments as well as information based on field visits and independent evaluations, in order to remove all possible bottlenecks from the programs. A special committee of secretaries responsible for the implementation of these three programs has also been set up to supervise the coordinated implementation of these programs in the field.

Communications facilities will be further extended in rural areas. In 1993-94, 46,800 village councils will be connected by telephone. It is proposed that public telephones be provided to 72,000 villages during 1994-95. In the schemes for the welfare of scheduled castes, special central assistance allocations for the special component plan were augmented in 1993, and their scope was expanded to include schemes for infrastructure development in areas with 50 percent or more of the population coming from scheduled castes. An important landmark during the year was the passage of the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis [Sanitation Workers] Act, which will assist in the rapid implementation of the liberation and rehabilitation of safai karamcharis. The National Commission is being constituted.

The government is fully alert to the situation arising out from the atrocities against the scheduled castes in certain parts of the country. Protection for the scheduled castes under the law as well as the effective implementation of programs for socioeconomic development meant for them will be ensured. During 1992-93, nearly 2.1 million scheduled caste families and 800,000 scheduled tribe families were assisted in crossing the poverty line by the 20-point program. During 1993-94, the total number of assisted families is likely to rise to 2.7 million scheduled caste families and 900,000 scheduled tribe families. A scheme of educational complexes in areas where tribal female literacy is very low was initiated during the year. Thirteen such complexes have been sanctioned so far. The turnover of the Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India rose from 220 million rupees in 1991 to 860 million rupees in 1992-93. This is expected to be much higher this year.

The National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation has made significant advances this year. During 1993, it sanctioned loans worth 800 million rupees, and it proposes to double its operations in the coming year. The long awaited reservation of vacancies for other backward classes in Indian Government services became a reality on 8 September 1993, when the present government issued orders for a 27 percent reservation for the backward classes. With this, one of the most important aspirations of the other backward classes in the country was met. Work relating to the publication of the works of Babasaheb Ambedkar in regional languages was taken forward, and two volumes each were brought out in Hindi, Tamil, and Gujarati. The work in other languages is proceeding well. Eight chairs have been sanctioned in different universities to undertake research on Babasaheb's philosophy.

The new Islamic Endowment Bill 1993 was introduced in Parliament in August 1993, replacing the existing Islamic Endowment Act 1954 and Islamic Endowment Amendment Act 1984. This will, among other things, provide for the more democratic composition of the Islamic Endowment Board, for the Islamic Endowment Tribunal to decide issues relating to Islamic endowment matters, and for better protection and management of Islamic endowment property. A National Minorities Finance and Development Corporation will become operational this year, with an authorized share capital of 5 billion rupees for promoting the economic development of minorities. The modalities are being worked out.

In my last address to you, I referred to the review of the 1986 national policy on education undertaken in 1992 and the modifications effected in that policy. The government continues to give very high priority to literacy and primary education based on innovative strategies for a total literacy campaign backed by a post-literacy campaign and a new district specific and community-oriented approach to primary education. All 18 districts in Kerala and Pondicherry have achieved total literacy. In the 32 districts that have already successfully concluded the total literacy campaign, post-literacy campaigns have been launched to ensure that the newly-literate do not lapse into illiteracy. At present, 238 total literacy campaigns are underway in 258 districts. The new district primary education program emphasizes participatory planning and management and focuses on the education of girls. It seeks to enhance the full effectiveness of the schools through inputs in teacher training and decentralized management. India played host to the Education for All summit of the world's nine highest population countries. Our commitment—as well as that of the international community—to achieving education for all by the turn of the century was reaffirmed there. On this occasion, the prime minister announced the government's decision to raise the outlay for education to 6 percent of gross domestic product by the turn of the century. This will be kept in view while formulating the ninth five-year plan. Besides this, the government aims to achieve the objective of education for all through segregated target setting and decentralized management.

Because of the sustained efforts of the Indian Government and the state governments in implementing the national family planning program, the annual population growth rate is declining. The annual average exponential rate of growth in 1981-91 was 2.14. The annual rate of increase decreased to 1.9 percent in 1992.

The crude birth rate, which was 41.7 per 1,000 from 1951-61, decreased to 29 per 1,000 in 1992. The crude death rate, which was 22.8 from 1951-61, decreased to 10 in 1992. The total fertility rate, which was 5.97 from 1951-61, decreased to 3.6 in 1991. The infant mortality rate for the country as a whole has decreased from 146 per 1,000 live births from 1961-79 to 71 in 1992. While these are significant achievements, the increase in population is still staggering. The government attaches the highest importance to reducing the population growth rate. There is a national consensus to promote family welfare. For this, multidimensional and multisectoral efforts involving state governments, opinion leaders, nongovernmental organizations, and all sections of society are essential. All political parties must unanimously exhort the people to adopt the small family norms and transform the family program into a mass movement. The National Development Council [NDC] has endorsed the recommendation of the Committee on Population it set up earlier. The NDC also decided to hold wider consultations with the chief ministers and opinion makers on the future course of action needed to implement the NDC's recommendations. This will be done shortly.

We are fully aware of the links between the development process and protection of the environment. The need for the conservation and wise use of natural resources is reflected in our major river cleaning and pollution abatement programs, as well as in our forest and wildlife policies. While participating in the continuing international debate on biodiversity, climate change, and increasing desertification, we have kept in focus the basic issues—raised at the 1992 Rio summit—of access to resources and technology. Within the government, our development efforts will take full note of all our environmental concerns.

The space program has made a steady progress. We had a failure in the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle's flight, but this has been put to good use. The data collected has been analyzed and has proven the effectiveness of the complex systems involved. The next flight of the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle is planned for August or September 1994. There has also been progress in the development of the Indian geosynchronous satellite launch vehicle which will enable the launch of INSAT class satellites in coming few years. The successful launch and commissioning of INSAT-2B last year—within a year of commissioning INSAT-2A—is a demonstration of our capabilities. The INSAT-2B has enabled Doordarshan [Indian television] to augment its services with five satellite channels. This has strengthened the programs broadcast by Doordarshan in regional languages.

India has a strong and large scientific and industrial infrastructure. It also has demonstrated its capability in several high technology fields. In this context, I am sure, the honorable members will join me in applauding the successful demonstration of high technology in the launch of the Agni missile last Saturday. [applause]

The pace of technological changes and the need to shift to technologies that are environmentally compatible imposes various demands on us. Restrictions placed on the transfer of technology require us to rely more on our own talents. The government is committed to encourage this to happen by tapping the great potential that the country possesses.

In the context of the emerging economic scenario, the benefits of research will be harnessed for use by our industries. A boost will be given to exports of high technology products. The thrust will be on information technology and genetic engineering and biotechnology. Priority will also be given to advanced materials and devices for use of solar and other nonconventional energy sources.

Our Armed Forces maintain their constant vigil on our borders to safeguard our country's territorial integrity. The nation is proud of them and of the defense scientists and engineers who have contributed commendably to our defense preparedness. Progress in the indigenous development of arms and ammunition and the diversification of defense production units is proceeding fast. In addition to their normal duties, the Armed Forces have been assisting civil authorities in maintaining law and order whenever required and in counter-insurgency operations. They have also been helping in rescue and relief operations in times of natural disaster. Their performance in these areas has been exemplary. The government remains committed to providing better facilities and conditions for serving and retired Armed Forces personnel. Those posted in field areas have recently been granted higher allowances. It has been decided to extend the benefit of the onetime pension increase scheme to an additional 200,000 pensioners.

As a result of sustained international marketing, the government has succeeded in instilling confidence among the international community that India is one of the safest tourism destinations in the world. This resulted in all time records for tourist arrivals in December 1993 and January 1994, registering increases of 23.8 percent and 28.4 percent, respectively, over the same months in 1992-93.

The government's foreign policy over the past year focused on securing our economic interests in our relations with countries abroad while continuing to promote our political and security interests. The significance of our economic reforms was effectively conveyed abroad. Our relations with our neighbors remained cordial, and our interaction with Bangladesh, Bhutan, the Maldives, Nepal, and Sri Lanka in various fields recorded good progress during the year.

In the case of Pakistan, however, its support for terrorism and subversion in Jammu and Kashmir and anti-Indian activities worldwide seriously hampered our efforts at normalizing relations. The prime minister offered Pakistan a dialogue aimed at establishing good neighborly relations as envisaged in the Simla agreement. Bilateral talks have since taken place, but the stridency of Pakistan's anti-Indian statements have grown, thus adversely affecting efforts at improving bilateral ties. There are no quarrels between us and the people of Pakistan. We feel that for good relations between our countries, the Government of Pakistan should give up its negative approach and cooperate with us to normalize India-Pakistan relations in accordance with the Simla agreement.

Our relations with China have improved markedly. The prime minister's visit to China in September 1993 and the signing of the agreement on maintaining peace and tranquility along the line of actual control have broadened these relations to a new stage of development. The expert group set up under this agreement held its first meeting recently, reflecting the desire of both sides to maintain and continue interaction on this complex issue.

India values the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation [SAARC] as an instrument of regional cooperation consistent with the objectives of its charter. The prime minister attended the SAARC summit in Dhaka last year. SAARC has recorded progress in dealing with certain important issues of common interest, such as poverty, terrorism, population growth, problems related to the status of women, children, youth, and drugs and psychotropic substances. We continue to play an active role in SAARC with a view to promoting socioeconomic and other objectives in accordance with the SAARC charter.

We have traditional ties with the United States in a number of areas, from education and science and technology to culture and sports. We have also cooperated with the United Nations on issues relating to disarmament, such as the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. The response from the United States to our economic liberalization policy has been positive and U.S. investments in India over the past two years were very substantial. We look forward to working with the United States toward mutual understanding on those issues which need enhancing as this will reflect the vibrant, democratic, and secular ideals of our two countries.

Relations with the Russian Federation continued with mutual understanding and cooperation based on the rich traditions of our past friendship. Despite certain difficulties the two countries face, both sides sought to promote cooperation in the political, economic, commercial, and other fields. The goodwill and understanding that underpin our relations reinforce our joint efforts and help to identify possibilities for further cooperation in various fields in today's changing context.

Special attention has been given to strengthening relations with the Central Asian region. The prime minister paid a very successful visit to Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan in 1993. The Uzbek and Kazakh presidents also visited India during the past year. A number of accords have been signed between India and these two countries in fields ranging from political cooperation and science and technology cooperation to trade, civil aviation, and culture.

A concerted effort was made to forge a new era of closer cooperation with ASEAN and the East Asian countries. New economic links were established and trade was increased. The commencement of a sectoral dialogue between India and ASEAN was a notable development. The prime minister's visit to Thailand in April 1993 gave a new impetus to Indo-Thai relations. India-Singapore relations were qualitatively upgraded, and Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong of Singapore visited India as the guest of honor at our Republic Day celebrations in January this year. Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed of Malaysia and President Suharto of Indonesia also visited India in December 1993. Our ties with Vietnam were reinforced with the vice president's visit to Vietnam in September 1993. The government continued to make sustained efforts to enhance economic and other links with Japan. The prime minister's visit to the Republic of Korea in September 1993 with a view to lending further momentum to bilateral and economic ties with that country received a positive response.

Our traditionally cordial relations with the Gulf countries are now marked by increasing economic interaction. Our prime minister's visit to Oman and Iran in September 1993 laid the foundation for an expanding relationship in the name of mutual economic benefit.

We welcomed the signing of the declaration of principles on interim self-government arrangements between Israel and PLO in September 1993 as a notable step toward peace and stability in West Asia and the restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

The importance that India and the European Union attach to further developing mutually beneficial relations in diverse fields was symbolized by the cooperation agreement on partnership and development concluded on 20 December 1993 and the Indo-EU joint statement of political dialogue. High-level dignitaries who visited India from Europe during the past year included the president of Ireland, the king of Sweden, and the prime minister of the Netherlands. The prime minister recently paid a very successful visit to Davos, Switzerland and Germany. In Davos, the prime minister addressed a worldwide audience of industrialists, political leaders, and academics. As a result, appreciation of India's policy and potential has grown. The visit to Germany has given further impetus to bilateral ties and has strengthened economic cooperation. The state visits I made to Ukraine, Turkey, and Hungary in July 1993 were a manifestation of our desire to consolidate our cooperative ties with these countries. These visits were the first by an Indian president to these countries.

During the year, we had interaction with the countries of the Sub-Saharan region, including visits by presidents or prime ministers of Burkina Faso, Mauritius, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. We have noted the positive developments in South Africa, and look forward to the early establishment of majority rule there.

India continues to play an active role in shaping the global agenda on issues pertaining to political and security patterns, economic and social developments, human rights, environment, and population in the various meetings of the United Nations, the Nonaligned Movement, and other international bodies. On these issues we have taken the lead in articulating the specific concerns of the developing countries with a view to promoting a global consensus.

The year 1993 was used to consolidate the gains of economic reform and the political initiatives of the government. We entered 1994 with the optimism of accelerating our pace of economic growth, strengthened by the reassuring verdict of the people in favor of reforms and against the forces of communalism.

I am confident your debates and deliberations in the course of this session and beyond will take the nation forward to fulfill the aspirations of the people. I commend you in your task and wish you all success. Hail India!

## Parliament Asks Pakistan To Vacate 'Occupied' Areas

*BK2202090494 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 22 Feb 94*

[Text] Parliament today unanimously condemned Pakistan's continuing support to terrorism and subversion in Jammu and Kashmir. In an identical resolution passed in both the houses, it said attempts from any quarter to interfere in the internal affairs of India will be met resolutely. The resolution declared that India has the will and capacity to firmly counter all designs against its unity, sovereignty, and territorial integrity.

Reiterating that Jammu and Kashmir is and shall be an integral part of India, the resolution said attempts to separate the state from the rest of the country will be resisted by India with all necessary means. The resolution demanded Pakistan to vacate the occupied areas of Jammu and Kashmir.

Noting with deep concern Pakistan's role in training terrorists and supply of weapons and funds to them, it said Islamabad's sole purpose is to create disorder, disharmony, and subversion in the valley. It called upon Pakistan to stop forthwith its support to terrorism which is in violation of the Simla Agreement. It said this is the root cause of tension between the two countries.

Describing Pakistan's anti-India campaign as unacceptable calumny and falsehood, the resolution expressed deep concern over the highly provocative statement from Pakistan and said it will only vitiate the atmosphere.

The resolution was moved by the speaker, Mr. Shivraj Patil, in the Lok Sabha, and the chairman, Mr. K.R. Narayanan, in the Rajya Sabha.

### Areas Said 'Integral Part' of Country

*BK2202111094 Delhi All India Radio General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 22 Feb 94*

[Text] Parliament today unanimously condemned Pakistan's continuing support to terrorism and subversion in Jammu and Kashmir. In an identical resolution passed in both the houses, it said attempts from any quarter to interfere in the internal affairs of India will be met resolutely. The resolution declared that India has the will and capacity to firmly counter all designs against its unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Reiterating that Jammu and Kashmir is and shall be an integral part of India, the resolution said attempts to separate the state from the rest of the country will be resisted by India with all necessary means. The resolution also demanded Pakistan to vacate the occupied areas of Jammu and Kashmir. It expressed concern at the pitiable conditions and violations of human rights and denial of democratic rights and freedom of the people living in those areas.

Noting with deep concern Pakistan's role in training terrorists and supply of weapons and funds to them, it said Islamabad's sole purpose is to create disorder, disharmony, and subversion in the valley. It also reiterated that the terrorists, including foreign mercenaries, are indulging in murder, loot and other various crimes against the people, taking them hostage and creating an atmosphere of terror. It called upon Pakistan to stop forthwith its support to terrorism which is in violation of the Simla Agreement. It said this is the root cause of tension between the two countries.

Describing Pakistan's anti-India campaign as unacceptable calumny and falsehood, the resolution expressed deep concern over the highly provocative statements from Pakistan and said it will only vitiate the atmosphere. The resolution reiterated that the Indian political and democratic structures and the Constitution provided for firm guarantee for protection of human rights of all the Indian citizens.

The resolution was passed with thumping of desks by all sections of both houses of Parliament.

## Commentary Views Foreign Investment Potential

*BK2002121594 Delhi All India Radio General Overseas Service in English 1010 GMT 20 Feb 94*

[Commentary by reporter Anjan Roy]

[Text] You can hardly open a day's newspaper without coming to some report or other of proposals for investment in India from overseas corporations. There are reports of the largest and most prestigious transnational corporations proposing to invest in India. There are reports also of smaller firms coming forward with project proposals. The fact of the matter is that international investors are now thinking of pumping in funds into India which had until now shunned the country. The figures released by the union Industry Ministry of late on foreign direct investment proposals so far having been cleared by the government in the last two and a half years show a distinct spurt. No less than 131.6 billion rupees of investment proposals have been approved since the reform program was launched. Of these proposals, the largest amount originated from the United States, notwithstanding the periodical outburst of the U.S. Government on various issues touching India and its concerns. If anything, the pragmatism of the U.S. investors goes to show the inherent attractiveness of India as the land for growth.

As such, the growth potentials of the developed countries are limited in various sectors and fresh opportunities could be explored only in the developing third world. Among the Third World countries almost all agree on the context of being an oft-repeated cliche, only two countries have growth opportunities, that is, India and China. The figures released also indicate that the interest in India is fairly widespread. If, as the largest economy, U.S. will have a natural interest in all major markets, smaller countries looking for investment of their surplus also think it fit to take a go in India. Oman, for example, has sought approval for investment to the tune of 5.43 billion rupees in various projects in the country. The Foreign Investment Approval Board has cleared proposals for investment from United Arab Emirates, Thailand, Netherlands, Japan, Mexico, Ireland, France, Mauritius, Italy, and Hong Kong.

The willingness of the Non-Resident Indians [NRI's] have also changed remarkably. The figures reveal that from a figure of over 38 billion rupees in 1992, the NRI's have mooted investments of over 88 billion rupees. Translating these foreign investment proposals calls for spending up the Indian bureaucracy to an altogether new mode of functioning. After all, actual investments could come to pass only if several other conditions are also fulfilled. The process of liberalization should make sure that the administration does not sit over small procedural matters. At the same time,it is imperative on the authorities to be more vigilant about the flow of such funds. In the wake of the liberalization process, ardent advocates have emerged who are lobbying for indiscriminate entry of all. They have argued that the investments should be allowed wherever the investments want them to be and then the market forces will in the long run decide what survives.

There is certainly some logic in allowing funds in. After all, India does not suffer much and the foreign direct investment will willy-nilly create assets in this country only. Hence, investments might be as well allow inactivities which have so far been considered not core sectors [sentence as heard]. But, the question arises in the end whether there is any room for indigenous technology, preferences or entereprise in this country. Do we have to take hamburgers rather than samosas [a popular Indian hot dish] or sweetened aerated water manufactured by multinational corporations exactly in the way the world does?

## Iran

### Ministry Confirms Landing of Iranian Helicopter

*LD2202085194 Tehran IRNA in English 0732 GMT 22 Feb 94*

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 22, IRNA—A spokesman for Iran's Foreign Ministry here Tuesday confirmed the emergency landing of a missing Iranian helicopter in northern Iraq. The spokesman called on the Iraqi Government to furnish Iran with further details on the issue through diplomatic channels.

The helicopter with two crew members on board was disappeared three days ago. The pilot in his last contact had reported technical failure. The spokesman said he is unable to precisely comment on the cause of the emergency landing due to the contradictory reports reaching here.

According to reports reaching here from the western border city of Sanandaj a large number of helicopters conduct flights over the region to transport relief aids and maintain security in the border region. The authorities in Kordestan Province had originally thought that the helicopter had crashed in the mountains in northeast of Iran. Informed sources in Kordestan said that reports coming from northern Iraq on the whereabouts of the helicopter and the fate of its crew are not highly reliable.

### Talks With Iraq Begin; Expansion of Ties Sought

*LD1902110994 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Feb 94*

[Text] Baghdad has called for the expansion of ties with Tehran. During the first round of talks between Iraqi Undersecretary for Foreign Affairs Mr. Sa'd 'Abd-al-Majid al-Faysal and our country's deputy foreign minister for international affairs, the Iraqi undersecretary placed emphasis on the expansion of the two countries' relations.

During the talks, held in Tehran this morning, the two sides also stressed the way should be paved for the creation of mutual trust, aimed at the expansion of ties. They also called for the resolution of the outstanding problems.

### POW's, Planes Discussed

*JN1902165294 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1530 GMT 19 Feb 94*

[Text] An Iraqi delegation, led by Sa'd 'Abd-al-Majid al-Faysal, under secretary at the Foreign Ministry, and an Iranian delegation, led by Mohammad Javad Zarif, assistant foreign minister for organizations affairs, held a round of talks in Tehran today. The talks centered on the release and return of all Iraqi POW's in Iran and on conducting searches for the missing. The talks also covered the issue of returning all Iraqi planes in Iran. Several technical committees from both sides were formed to study the various outstanding problems between Iraq and Iran.

The Iraqi delegation, headed by Sa'd 'Abd-al-Majid al-Faysal, arrived in Tehran the day before yesterday on a visit to Iran. The visit is aimed at completing talks with the Iranian side, which were begun in Baghdad during Mohammad Javad Zarif's visit on 17 October. It is also to prepare for a meeting between the two countries' foreign ministers, planned to be held in Baghdad later this year.

### Papers View Talks

*LD2102105294 Tehran IRNA in English 0738 GMT 21 Feb 94*

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 21, IRNA—Two morning dailies here Monday commented over the current visit to Iran of

Iraqi Deputy Foreign Minister Sa'd al-Faysal and expressed pessimism over the result of the talks.

The English daily 'TEHRAN TIMES' said in its editorial that replacing mutual distrust between Iran and Iraq with an environment conducive to bilateral good will is possible only with the passage of time and the pursuance of a 'one step at a time' policy.

It quoted informed sources as saying that Baghdad's main objective in the current talks is to secure the speedy return of its fighter planes held in Iran.

"The Iraqi regime must realize that while it continues to arm and train anti-Iranian terrorists on its soil bordering the Islamic Republic, it would be childish to believe that Iran will return the planes which can easily end up in the hands of those same terrorists to be used against its citizens", the daily underlined.

Tehran's reluctance to expand relations with Baghdad stems from the fact that Iraq simultaneously speaks from both corners of its mouth, the paper said adding that from one corner come statements of reconciliation, while the other corner tries to convince the West that another Western investment in Baghdad's war machine is needed to bring Iran's Islamic revolution under control and to secure Western interests.

The article concluded by saying that Iraq no longer holds any attraction for its former Western backers, and the stability of the Persian Gulf countries, since the elimination of Baghdad from the regional power equation, has further convinced the West of Iraq's diminished value.

Commenting on the same subject, the daily 'ABRAR' noted that although the Iraqis have so far shown reluctance in taking any positive step in their negoitiations with Iranian officials, they have almost turned over all possible concessions to the U.N. and the West.

The Iraqi officials hold the idea that through speedy mending of ties with the West, U.S. in particular, their country could regain its political status both at the international community and in the region, the paper added.

It further noted that the Iraqis, imagining that the West would forgive their past wrongdoings and they would experience the golden days once again, did not deem necessary to follow up negotiations with Iran.

Therefore, said the editorial, Iraq should abandon its hypocritical and stubborn policy and instead open a new chapter in its relations with Iran.

The paper concluded by saying that no doubt Iraqi statesmen are fully aware of the position and capabilities of both Iran and their own country under the present circumstances and if they act vigilantly they would not miss the chance.

## Velayati Assails UN 'Incompetence' on Bosnia

*LD1702214594 Tehran IRIB Television Second Program Network in Persian 1602 GMT 17 Feb 94*

[Studio interview with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati by unidentified correspondent in weekly "Political Roundtable" program—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Correspondent] Mr. Velayati, I thank you for attending the program. As my first question, I would like to ask why various efforts to solve the problem of Bosnia-Herzegovina have failed to achieve a satisfactory result in the last 23 months, while all involved parties claim to want to solve the problem in a fair way?

[Velayati] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Greetings to dear viewers. I would like to mention that this is not the case. Not all sides involved in the resolution of the Bosnian issue are well-intentioned in the search to find an honorable solution to that complicated and painful problem. Therefore, we witness stagnation, deadlock, slowness, seeking excuses and obstructionism in the process of the work related to the establishment of peace and stability in Bosnia. Specifically the influential members of the Security Council, in various forms and degrees of strength, oppose the establishment of an Islamic state in the heart of Europe. And that is an issue which can be clearly said today.

In the past, it was assumed, on the basis of the available analysis, that some influential members of the United Nations, and specifically in the Security Council, would stop, in various forms and degrees of strength, the formation of that Islamic country in the heart of Europe in any way they can. That is the reality of the case. What you can see, which can be described in general as obstructionism toward the establishment of an honorable and fair peace, is caused by that ideology which dominates the Security Council and particularly its permanent members.

[Correspondent] In the same connection we witness that the Security Council—to which you specifically referred—prevents the efforts of the effective members of the ICO. What is the reason for that?

[Velayati] As I said the reasoning for that is the same as the reply to the first question. Islamic countries, according to a state of sympathy that exists in the world of Islam toward the fate of Muslims, adopted very clear and forthright stances in support of Bosnia. Today if an Islamic government exists which seeks to act differently to that it will face the pressure of its public opinion. Therefore, you see a solidarity among all the ICO members—which number 52. That is 52 ICO member states are unanimous in the belief that the Bosnian problem must be resolved in an honorable and just manner; the aggressions and brutalities of the Serbs and Croats against the Muslims must be terminated; and human rights—in its true sense—must be observed in Bosnia. But we know, and we have experienced for many years, that some Western countries use the words human rights as a political weapon to advance their objectives. If they wish to put pressure on a country, they do it by using the human rights lever. But they themselves determine the criteria for human rights. Even if we seek to raise another issue within the framework of human rights by using those very criteria that they have determined themselves, they will oppose that method if it does not suit their political interests. In other words, they use differing standards when judging and making decisions on a single issue in the world. That is, double standards in international forums—resulting from the influence exerted by influential states—is quite obvious. You know that, for instance, the U.S. Government has been asked repeatedly to send its troops to Bosnia under the UN flag to prevent the Serbs' aggression—and even the UN secretary general has made such a request recently—but the Americans have so far abstained from such a thing. Whereas you see that in Kuwait and Somalia they themselves were the axis for implementing UN decisions. But in the case of Bosnia they have said bluntly that their national interests do not warrant such a thing.

[Correspondent] Yes. Just today there were reports saying that the commander of the UN forces in Bosnia has requested 3,000 reinforcements which in practice would be from America but America has failed to agree.

[Velayati] Yes. Some American officials had already said they would do no such a thing since their national interests do not warrant it. Thus you see that they interpret human rights according to their national interests, or to be more clear, their personal interests. That is, if you see the Americans intervene somewhere—under the pretext of supporting human rights, supporting humanitarian aspirations and peace—it will be nothing but a deception because they do not intervene in similar scenarios where that detracts from their political interests. And they even may prevent intervention by those whose really intend to establish justice. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] You have pointed to the Nonaligned Movement, the ICO, and the latter's liaison group. Now why is it that the UN Security Council has called on NATO to act despite the fact that countries such as Iran have repeatedly announced their readiness to send troops? Is this a European and a Christian decision in connection with the formation of an Islamic government in Bosnia-Herzegovina?

[Velayati] In reality the Security Council which is under the rule of the permanent members of the Council, and more specifically under the rule of the western permanent members of the Council, seriously prevents the international scene from slipping away from the supervision and decisionmaking domain of these limited and influential members of the Security Council. It is in fact a form of coercion. On the surface the United Nations and the Security Council were formed after World War II to defend justice and keep security and peace. The UN Charter is in fact to guard and strengthen peace in an honorable and just fashion across the world and to propagate peaceful ideals. However the foundations are such that the international scene is under the yoke of several influential and powerful countries of the Security Council. They think that if they respond positively to requests by Islamic or third world countries and allow them to defend justice under the UN flag and according to UN charter, a part of the international situation may slip from their hands and the Bosnian situation could develop in a way that might not be in their interests. To conclude my answer to your question I repeat and emphasize the answer given to the earlier questions. The pretext of action by some western countries within the UN context is to seek peace and justice. However the content of their actions is in fact an effort toward maintaining the interests of the countries on whose behalf they are active in the United Nations.

As you pointed out, despite the declaration of Islamic countries in the Pakistan summit and the repeated emphasis in the recent Geneva summit as well as repeated emphasis in the liaison group of the Islamic Conference in Jakarta—which was held during the nonaligned meeting—stating the preparation of the Islamic countries, at least the several countries that had announced readiness, to send 20,000 fully equipped troops to Bosnia under the full supervision of the UN, so as to leave no doubt, we have not yet received a positive response form the UN secretary general. This is despite the fact that the secretary general and the Security Council repeatedly emphasize that there is a need for more peacekeeping troops to guard peace and the security of the besieged people of Bosnia. But they only ask some particular countries. You have pointed this out. They have asked the Americans to send 3,000 troops. Americans have not sent them. France and Holland said they will be not sending more. Well if they are short of troops and some UN members are prepared to send troops to the region to serve under the control of the UN commander, why are they not responding positively to this proposal by Islamic countries? We can then conclude that the UN Security Council is under the influence of several particular countries. And since these countries only see and wish to keep their own interests in the world, even to the cost of other countries, they try to keep the international situation under their own control. Thus they oppose other countries which even might wish to send troops with all sincerity.

[Correspondent] The NATO deadline to the Serbs ends Sunday night. NATO's intended deadline and action are not very reliable and permanent because they are limited to areas surrounding Sarajevo and the withdrawal of heavy weapons to a particular distance, but is it possible to predict the NATO action?

[Velayati] Their ultimatum is not very strong and no firm decision has been made. They have asked the Serbs to withdraw their heavy weapons 20 kilometers from where they are. We do not really know what this would solve in Bosnia's complex situation. That they have been told to withdraw their heavy weapons means light weapons are alright. And the formation of the Serb military forces around Sarajevo is such that they can aim with light weapons at the innocent people of Sarajevo with ease. Furthermore there are no plans for other Bosnian towns besieged by Serbs and Croats. There are also differences between NATO members over the implementation of the ultimatum. Even if we imagine that they resolve their differences and take action after the 10 days, it would be less an effective practical action and more a propaganda measure for some western countries which want to say that they are seeking peace and justice in Bosnia. Even if they take action, for example by bombing Serb positions, it would not be determining in the Bosnian situation. It would only be a propaganda measure in favor of countries making the decisions in NATO and a tool to silence the protest of people who of are fed up with this injustice.

[Correspondent] Dr. Velayati, this may seem a general question, but what is the solution to the Bosnian problem?

[Velayati] It seems to be very simple, but they do not want to see the implementation of a clear solution. Bosnia is an accepted UN member. According to the UN Charter, if the territorial integrity of a UN member country is threatened, it is the responsibility of the United Nations to defend that country's territorial integrity. That is to help the people of that country to safeguard their territorial integrity. Second if an act of aggression takes place against a country and genocide takes place, it is the duty of the United Nations to stop the genocide. Thirdly a number of resolutions were finally issued in support of Bosnia due to the public pressure. It is the duty of the United Nations to implement those resolutions.

Therefore the solution to the problem of Bosnia is that the UN Security Council, which is responsible for safeguarding peace and security in the world, should act, within the UN framework, and seriously take the necessary measures to end the aggression and bestial acts of the Serbs and Croats against Bosnia which is an independent country and a UN member. It should also stop the continuation of the genocide. It should also implement the UN approvals.

I mentioned earlier that the United Nations is dominated by double standards and you can see that in the way the Iraqi people were treated. Look at the situation that Iraq finds itself in today. A country with massive resources and a long history. An important Islamic and Arab country. We have left the Iraqi Government alone; but what sin have the Iraqi people committed? Those people have really been devastated under the the pretext of carrying out the decisions of the UN Security Council. The same disaster was wreaked on the Somali people. But regarding Bosnia they procrastinate somewhat.

Today, Bosnia's main problem is the indecision and incompetence of the United Nations. That is, even if just one of the influential members of the Security Council does not wish one serious action to be undertaken in the international arena it is able to carry out that wish. That is the United Nations's shortcoming. That is, it is sufficient for an influential Security Council member to veto a decision. It ties the UN hands, even if under that veto the worst crimes occur in a spot in the world. Just like it has in the Bosnian case! More than 200,000 of the Bosnians, most of whom, almost all of whom were ordinary people and civilians—women, children, young and old. They became martyrs through the continuation of the Serbs' crimes there. And hundreds of thousands became refugees. They are living a harsh life, in the heart of Europe and under the eyes of the UN observers. You see that the Serbs have deployed their mortars, their artillery, and any time they wish they kill the ordinary people who are passing through the street for shopping. Human rights are being violated and trampled on so blatantly over there and no serious objection is forthcoming among the European communities.

We return to the first part of our discussion. If you wish to know my understanding, it can be summarized in one word [as heard]. Those people are Muslims and wish to have a country where they can live in peace and tranquillity, just like the rest of the world nations. This reactionary idea continues to dominate in some Western communities that in practice they oppose some of the European people—who have another religion—having an independent state.

[Correspondent] Dr. Velayati, once again I thank you for your trouble in taking part in this program.

[Velayati] I thank you as well.

### Khamene'i Delivers Friday Prayer Sermon

*LD1802154194 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1206 GMT 18 Feb 94*

[Second Friday sermon by Ayatollah Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic revolution, at Tehran University on 18 February—recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful. [passage omitted]

First I feel obliged to thank the honorable Iranian nation with all my being—an aware nation, a nation with a sense of timing, a nation which recognizes its enemy, a nation which is grateful for God's great bounties—for their demonstration of power on 11 February before the eyes of friends and foes the world over. We, who know about the world issues, and are aware of them, somewhat more than the general public, understood the strength of the blow that was delivered to the propaganda which the enemies of the Islamic republic of Iran had started a few months ago.

When they start the adverse propaganda they start it together since the other side is but one front. Those

Zionist and arrogant news agencies—those famous agencies from whom all news reports and analyses are taken by all the world broadcasting aerials—and several radio stations which spend millions every year perchance to be able to get their voice across to a few people in Iran. The translators and presenters write, they employ people, they spend on technical things, spend on publicity, spend on writing, make policies, and spend much money to get that voice across to Iran, so that maybe a few individuals here and there listen to it and be influenced by it.

Beginning several months ago they began whispers—of course that is not new either, but once in a while they begin an onslaught—to the effect that the people no longer have anything to do with the revolution and Islam in Iran. The people are fed up with Islam. Look how badly the Islamic Republic of Iran's authorities have acted that the people have even put aside Islam.

Domestically, too, some were repeating those sentences. They still will do so, let me tell you! Unfortunately in our very universities—I say this to the Hizbollahi students so that they know—there are such motives here and there. Of course the majority of the lecturers are good; are faithful; support the development and advancement of this nation; support the Islamic revolution and the holy system of the Islamic republic. But you can't say that there are no sly ones either. In those same universities there are some people—of course they are very few, very few—who try to give this issue a philosophical form, saying that since the Islamic Republic came to power Islam weakened. There cannot be a more blatant lie and trick.

Islam's acme was reached all over the world with the creation of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

They want to portray the situation in an exactly opposite way. They want to say that the Islamic Republic, the formation of an Islamic state, and the delivery of the crushing blow of Islam and the Koran to the mouth of the enemy are all causing Islam harm. If this had been so, then the prophet and the lord of the faithful ['Ali, the first Shiite imam] would not have formed a government, and the leaders of the Islamic community at the advent of Islam would have just sat in their homes. What need was there then for forming a government? If an Islamic government was harmful for the delivery of Islam's message, then why did the prophet go to all that trouble and engage himself in so many wars in which so many people lost their lives? You can now see for yourselves how ignorant they are about Islam.

Sometimes words such as these are disseminated by a certain radio station belonging to one of the world's disgraced and ugly groups. This can be blamed on that group's ignorance, or the fact that it is not part of this community. But some people in this very Islamic homeland utter such meaningless words.

Anyway, the nation did what it had to do at a highly appropriate time. It came out on 11 February and amazed them. They were left speechless. What could they say, after all? The huge streets of Tehran, Azadi Square, and all towns and cities were filled with a massive crowd. This was the case even in those towns which the enemy wants to portray as having disputes with the Islamic system. The serious and resolute faces of the people of these towns were clearly visible. The enemies and the others witnessed how cohesively the Iranian nation was conducting its movement.

I tell you here that, in the world of today, there is not even one other single government—whether among the major powers such as America or the smaller powers—which has the capability to mobilize its nation in such a magnificent way to participate in a national and ideological event. This is something which only the Islamic Republic of Iran is able to accomplish.

Another point is that there is an onslaught against Muslims in the world, brothers and sisters, and Muslims should realize that they are being attacked from all sides. Even if a country is left alone in a corner of the world, it should not think that it is so; there is an onslaught against Islam and Muslims. Of course, the clear example of this is the great tragedy of Bosnia-Herzegovina. It is really strange, it is unprecedented.

Those Serbs and Croats, backed by the British, certain European Governments, and America, have outdone the usurping Zionists of Israel in creating tragedies and cruelty. [passage omitted]

Today all the events are seen in American and European magazines and press and television, and the hardhearted West and the arrogant and unjust governments are sitting around—having first equipped the oppressor, doing everything for him, and giving him plenty of scope—waiting for the strong to cut off the head of the weak, from ear to ear. Every once in a while they say a few things, hold a conference, and so forth; it is all empty talk.

Of course, Islamic governments are not all that faultless. Some have behaved well. The Iranian Nation and Government have behaved better than all. Some others have behaved well and some badly. Otherwise, if Islamic governments had said to those who support the Serbs that they would sever ties and stop trading with them for a month, things would not be as they are. They were negligent.

In any case, it is a big event. Of course, God willing, you will see—the whole world will see—in the future that this event will be beneficial to Islam in Europe and harmful to arrogant European powers.

The nature of this event is such that in future years [pauses] God willing, this will pave the way for the revival of Islam and the situation of Islam in Europe. That is one example of the onslaught. Another example is Palestine, occupied Palestine. Today Israelis, before the eyes of the world, have usurped Palestine and have imprisoned, tortured, convicted, forced into exile, and dropped bombs on Palestinians and the world remains silent. Moreover, the world condemns the oppressed people, saying: Why you do such things? When I say the world, I mean the world of arrogance—that is, America in the first place, which is the most wicked and malicious of them all, followed by those who follow America.

What is happening in Lebanon is a struggle against the usurper Zionist enemy that has usurped both Palestine and parts of Lebanon. Instead of asking the usurper why it has usurped, the world criticizes the people who are defending their homes, asking them: Why are you defending them? See what a filthy new world order is dominating the world. Is that the new world order they were speaking about? A bullying thug enters the house of a group of orphan children, occupies their home, takes away their facilities, foodstuffs, their comfortable rooms, their bedrooms, occupies the whole space of their house, and imprisons the occupants of the house in a cellar, for example, and sets restrictions on them. As soon as an opportunity arises for those children to cry out and ask why, he gets angry, saying: You always speak of struggle, why do you not think of peace? Why you are so ill-humored? You see, that is the situation of the world today. They carry out acts of aggression and mass murder against Muslims, and the mass murderers are encouraged, as has happened in Kashmir and Tajikistan. They collaborate to destroy Islam. But when Muslims open their mouths once, they say: For God's sake, you always speak of struggle. You are always ill-humored. That is the way things are. They have begun a dangerous and violent confrontation against Islam. Of course this confrontation that, despite going on strongly for around 10 to 12 years and being properly planned, has, God be praised, created more problems for arrogance and has made life more difficult for it. Each day world arrogance becomes more disappointed and the governments that support it become more hesitant. That is the way things are. Muslims of the world should know this, and you, the Muslim nation of Iran, should also know that Islamic Iran is where Islam can speak forcefully.

Appreciate such power, glory, and independence. Appreciate the capability of this nation and this government to express their feelings about any power. Others do not have such a capability. God be praised, we have increased our capability in that respect day by day. We have become stronger each day, thanks to almighty God. the enemy, with all its power, has become frustrated in its confrontation with Islam. Our nation should appreciate this, our government should appreciate this, officials should appreciate this. Do not distance yourselves from Islam. We should not forget the enemy. We had the test of 11 February, in which our nation performed well. We also have the Jerusalem Day test, toward the end of the month of Ramadan, to come.

A couple of times each year, God be praised, we have such general demonstrations and shows of the Islamic Iran's strength. One is performed better than the other. You should not forget Jerusalem Day, and, of course, the path of being steadfast in this arena is to maintain a close link with God, so that God almighty does not deny us his bounty and mercy. [passage omitted]

### Comments on Islam, Ramadan Celebration

*LD1802123894 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1030 GMT 18 Feb 94*

[Excerpts] Today, on the first Friday of the auspicious month of Ramadan, millions of fasting compatriots held Friday prayers in the cities and various areas of the country in an atmosphere imbued with spirituality.

The unifying and formidable Friday prayers were held in Tehran under the imamate of His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, the exalted leader of the Islamic revolution, and Tehran's Friday imam, and with a spectacular participation of the fasting and faithful people in serried ranks at Tehran University and its surrounding streets.

His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i devoted the first prayer sermon to a discussion about the importance of observing divine piety and its role in a life of faithful human beings and, while calling upon the worshippers to take the opportunity of the blessed month of Ramadan for entering the tremendous realm of piety, said: Piety brings many benefits with it to the life of human beings, including the guarding of self against slips and precipices. Strengthening a spirit of piety brings success for human beings in divine tests and enables them to continue along the path of further strengthening their faith and serving God.

Tehran's Friday imam considered the fall of eastern imperialism to have resulted from lack of piety and said: Fall comes after lack of piety and nations devoid of piety will be beset by pride, arrogance, deviation, and destruction. The fact that the powerful nations of the world have been beset by all that at various periods of history demonstrates that all the impious individuals and nations of the world must await such a fall. [passage omitted]

The Friday prayer leader of Tehran stressed the widespread currency of words of righteousness in the Islamic country of Iran. He said: The present aura in the country belongs to righteousness. This is because our sovereignty is based on righteousness to which our nation ardently adhere. For this reason, we are not sensitive to the nonsense spoken by the wrong-doers. In the Islamic system, security has been provided for all the members of the society, even for those who are not in agreement with the trend of righteousness. [passage omitted]

His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i began the second sermon of the Friday prayers by paying tribute to the Iranian nation for their epic making presence in the 11 February revolution anniversary demonstrations, and considered this move of the people as an important and effective blow to the poisonous propaganda of the enemies of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

[Begin Khamene'i recording] I consider it necessary to sincerely thank the great, aware, and vigilant nation of Iran—a nation who appreciates time and place, is fully capable of identifying its enemies, and is always grateful to God for His blessings—for displaying its power and might on 11 February before the eyes of the friends of foes the world over.

The huge streets of Tehran, the Azadi Square, and all towns and cities were filled with a massive crowd on that day. This was the case even in those towns which the enemy wants to portray as having disputes with the Islamic system. The serious and resolute faces of the people of these towns were clearly visible. The enemies and the others [as heard] saw that the Iranian nation conducted its movement in such a cohesive manner. [end recording]

The leader of Islamic revolution continued his sermons by referring to the hefty budget that the Zionist and arrogant media devote to their attempts to influence the public opinion of the Iranian nation. He said: News agencies which are influenced and guided by the Zionists, as well as a number of foreign radio stations have been trying for a while now to create the illusion that the Iranian people are no longer interested in the revolution and Islam, and the performance of the Islamic republic has led to the weakening of Islam. However, this deceitful ploy is too disgraceful for any one to pay attention to. This is because Islam's growth and magnificence in the world is due to the creation of the Islamic republic.

The Friday prayer leader of Tehran then revealed the propaganda ploys of the enemies of Islam and said: They want to induce that the formation of an Islamic government and the delivery of the crushing blow of Islam and the Koran to the enemies has caused Islam harm. However, they are ignorant about Islam. If what the enemies claim had been correct, then the eminent prophet of Islam would not have formed a political entity, and he would not have been involved so many wars. Furthermore, His Holiness 'Ali, may peace be upon him, would not have set out to form a government, and the leaders of the Islamic community during the early years of Islam would have remained in their homes.

His eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i said that the people's magnificent rallies on 11 February humiliated the enemies of Islam. He said: Our enemies saw that the Iranian nation was present on the scene cohesively. Today one cannot find any other nation in the world which is able to mobilize its people in this way to take part in a national and ideological event. [passage omitted]

His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i said the issue of occupied Palestine is another example of the onslaught by the enemies of Islam. He said: The usurper Israelis have usurped Palestine in full view of the world people and continue to torture, exile, bomb, and execute Palestinians; but the arrogant world, headed by America, condemns the oppressed Palestinians and criticizes their defense of their home. That shows what sort of malevolent new order is ruling the world.

The leader of the Islamic revolution referred to the world powers collaborating to destroy Islam. He said: The enemies of Islam have started a dangerous and harsh struggle against Islam. The longer it takes the more they fail, and governments supporting them more scarce. World Muslims should know that Islamic Iran is the point where Islam can say its piece with strength. [passage omitted]

## Commentary Notes Opinions on Bosnian Crisis

*NC1902121894 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0445 GMT 19 Feb 94*

[Commentary prepared by the News Research and Commentaries Group]

[Text] The crisis in Bosnia-Herzegovina has adopted new international dimensions. The conflict among the United States, Europe, and Russia over the ultimatum to the Serbs has overshadowed many political developments.

While Europe continues to have doubts on the implementation of the recent NATO threats against the Serbs, Russia's protest against the ultimatum to the Serbs has given Europeans a good chance to avoid their humanitarian and political responsibility to deal with the Serbs' crimes. The Russian deputy foreign minister has said that his country will do its best at the United Nations to prevent action on this threat, adding that Russia's goal is to be sure that this threat will never be implemented and that an attack will never take place.

On the same topic, Russian President Boris Yeltsin has sent a letter to the heads of the five Western countries warning of the dangers that an air strike on the Serbs in Bosnia would entail and said that this would lead to unforeseeable consequences. Meanwhile, in a fresh attempt, Russia has proposed an international peace conference for Bosnia next week and has informed the heads of the Western countries of this. However, this proposal has been rejected by Washington and a U.S. State Department spokesman said that lengthy preparations would be necessary for that.

At any rate, the recent developments in the Bosnian crisis and its international consequences show that, basically speaking, Western and Eastern Europe are very vulnerable in this crisis and that failures in finding a fundamental solution to this crisis has posed difficult problems for the behind the scenes efforts in the crisis.

The West is facing a great crisis of values and humanitarianism; and pressures from domestic and international public opinion are constantly increasing. Meanwhile, Russia, which heretofore influenced the developments in the Bosnian crisis by backing the Serbs of Bosnia and Serbia, has taken an active role now that there is a possibility of NATO intervention against the Serbs and is trying to create a security umbrella there vis-a-vis the West reminiscent of the Warsaw Pact. Otherwise, no one takes the NATO threat seriously; not because NATO is not taking any steps against the Serbs, but because any possible moves by NATO will not tip the scales in Bosnia in favor of the Muslims.

Meanwhile, what is causing concern here is that many Western countries are favoring a military step, or at least a military threat, so as to decrease the pressures on them by domestic public opinion and worldwide Islam and to increase pressure on the Bosnian Muslims to accept a compromise and agree to the division of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The world of Islam should not be influenced by the political and propaganda commotion and forget its responsibility vis-a-vis Bosnia.

### Human Rights Usage as 'Political Tool' Examined

*LD2002205794 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in English 1930 GMT 20 Feb 94*

[Unattributed station commentary]

[Text] In the wake of release of the report of Mr Reynaldo Galindo Pohl, the UN Human Rights Commission's special representative for probing into the so-called human right's violations in Iran, yesterday a spokesman of Iran's Foreign Ministry denied the contention of the representative of the UN Human Rights Commission.

The spokesman described the contention as baseless and fabricated.

In a report released by the special representative of the human rights commission at the UN last Friday, the Islamic Republic of Iran was again declared as the violater of human rights due to such cases as execution and crushing of drug smugglers and launching a drive against social evils.

It is also been claimed in the report that there exists a large number of political prisoners in Iran and religious minorities are harassed.

Since 1948 when the principles on observance of human right were formulated at the UN there has now elapsed nearly half a century.

During these years fervent efforts have been made so that the world nations may have access to some broad based principles devoid of political discrimination and observations.

This was aimed at making them check any infringement of their rights.

Hence today nearly all the world states duly accept the principles in observing the human rights and also respect them.

This acceptance is also for the reason that the UN as the greatest world body is recognized as the only forum, which basically should be the body for considering world issues specially for defending the rights of human beings at global level.

But in reality such attention to human rights has so far been payed in a different manner.

It is now for many years that western states and governments which have risen to covertly or overtly confront the Islamic revolution in Iran over the past fifteen years, have been using human rights as a weapon against Islamic Iran.

At the onset of the Islamic revolution's victory, the Islamic republic of Iran viewed with respect international and human rights organizations similar to other world bodies.

But acts of the UN human rights commission soon showed that the term human rights is merely a forced motto in the contemporary world.

Also the statements and reports of this commission, prior to have been effected by domestic realities of world states, are the outcome of the exigencies of domineering world policies.

This precisely points to the conditions which are now faced by us. It is indisputable but any move in safeguarding humanitarian criteria of human rights will be possible only when those involved with human rights issues at the international level approach the subject without considering political aspects and conservative outlook, but they act in a totally impartial manner without taking sides with their typical cultural values.

They should also refrain from using the issue of human rights as a political weapon.

## Pakistan

### PRC's Qian Qichen Arrives in Islamabad 21 Feb

*BK2202013294 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0100 GMT 22 Feb 94*

[Text] Qian Qichen, Chinese vice premier and foreign minister, has said that Pakistan-China friendship is useful for and conducive to the maintenance of peace and stability in Asia. Talking to newsmen on his arrival in Islamabad yesterday evening, he expressed the hope that his visit will further promote the existing friendship between Pakistan and the PRC and expand the understanding between the two countries. He said that the Chinese Government sincerely wishes further expansion of cooperation between the two countries. Foreign Minister Sardar Asif Ahmad Ali, who received the Chinese foreign minister at the airport, stressed the need for regular exchange of views between the two countries so as to further strengthen their bilateral relations.

## U.S. Accused of 'Biased Attitude' on Nuclear Issue

*BK2202101394 Islamabad KHABRAIN in Urdu 21 Feb 94 p 10*

[Editorial: "Nuclear Nonproliferation in South Asia, the U.S. Biased Attitude"]

[Text] In his annual report to the U.S. Congress on South Asia and the prevention of proliferation of nuclear arms, President Bill Clinton has reiterated that both Pakistan and India can manufacture nuclear arms in limited quantities within a relatively short period of time. Also stating in his report that Pakistan has not abandoned its nuclear program, the U.S. President has suggested that if Pakistan and the PRC consent to prevent the proliferation of nuclear arms, talks will be held with them, and the sanctions imposed on them will also be lifted. As is reflected in the contents of the report, the U.S. President has leveled allegations against Pakistan and India on the manufacture of nuclear weapons but has overtly exempted India from committing itself to nuclear nonproliferation and has maintained pressure on Pakistan. This indicates that the United States is openly biased on the India-Pakistan matter. Our politicians and policy makers should take note of this, and while formulating future policies, they should bear in mind that we need not look to any side or take orders on our national affairs; we should adopt a clear stand on them. Despite our repeated assurances, knowing all this full well, the only superpower has rejected our legitimate and clear stand.